

Advertising blitz in battle for Britain

Big-spending climax to end poll campaign

The Conservative and Labour parties are splashing out on a late advertising blitz in the closing days of the campaign

The Tories increased their attack on Labour's defence policy, seen by them as the opposition's weakest link

Moles inside the Conservative's election headquarters are feeding Mr Kinnoch with sensitive information

Mrs Thatcher, questioned about her religious beliefs, equated Conservative values with Christianity (page 8)

By Robin Oakley and Philip Webster

Both the Conservative and Labour parties are planning an unprecedented advertising blitz for the last days of the general election campaign with money seemingly no object.

Frantic efforts were going on yesterday to book pages and pages of national newspaper advertising between now and Thursday.

Labour was seeking as many as four consecutive pages in some newspapers on Tuesday.

Exchange rejects inquiry call

The Stock Exchange yesterday rejected calls for an inquiry into allegations that millions of pounds are being made on the back of bogus opinion poll rumours.

It did, however, warn opinion pollsters and publishers not to leak the findings. Action would be taken if it heard from anyone with information about the prior leaking of opinion poll results.

In the last few days share prices on the Stock Exchange have fluctuated, sometimes violently, on rumours of an imminent opinion poll with findings substantially different to the one before. On Thursday more than £6 billion was wiped off share values at one point on rumours that a poll predicting a cut in the Conservative lead to just 2 per cent was to be published the following morning.

Reports that some City operators are making millions out of these activities prompted Mr George Foulkes, Labour spokesman on Foreign Affairs, to call for a Stock Exchange investigation.

A Stock Exchange official replied that an investigation was "both unnecessary and impractical".

Mr Robert Worcester, chairman of the MORI opinion poll organisation, complained yesterday that the market was being "manipulated unethically".

IN PART 2

£1bn ICI deal

ICI signed a £1 billion deal to buy the US Stauffer Chemical group from Unilever, making it the world's third largest agro-chemical company. Page 25

Portfolio Gold

There is £16,000 to be won today in the Times Portfolio Gold competition - the £8,000 weekly prize plus £8,000 for the daily prize, double the usual amount as there were no winners yesterday. Portfolio daily list, page 29; weekly check, page 36.

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Table with 2 columns: Index Item and Page Number. Includes Home News, Election reports, Overseas, Business, Sport, Arts, Births, deaths, marriages, Court, Crosswords, Diary, Entertainment, Features, Law Report, Leading articles, Letters, Obituary, Property, Religion, Sale Room, Science, Services, TV & Radio, Universities, Weather.

Labour 'selling out' on defence

By Robin Oakley and Nicholas Wood

Tory big guns yesterday stepped up the attack on Labour's defence policy, identified by the Conservatives as the Opposition's weakest link.

In advance of Mrs Thatcher's visit to the Venice economic summit, Ministers set out to highlight Mr Kinnoch's lack of experience as a world statesman.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, and Mr George Younger, the Defence Secretary, all weighed in on the defence issue.

The toughest contribution came from Mr Younger, who claimed that the election of a Labour government would "scupper all prospects" of an arms deal with the Russians.

Why should the Russians negotiate seriously, he asked, when everything they wanted would be conceded to them in advance. They would see the clear prospect of the disintegration of Nato and would merely have to wait to pick up the pieces.

Mr Younger said: "The truth is that Mr Kinnoch cannot be trusted to stand up for Britain's interests. He wouldn't negotiate seriously to reduce nuclear weapons in a way which protects Britain's security. Through a dangerous mixture of inexperience and naivety, he would sell Britain's security down the river."

Saying that the Russians knew a "soft touch" when they saw one, Mr Younger said that on Mr Kinnoch's visit to Moscow "they promised that in return for one-sided disarmament they would not target their nuclear weapons on Britain."

"Mr Kinnoch fell for it, apparently oblivious to the fact that Soviet missiles can be re-targeted in a matter of minutes."

At the morning Conservative press conference Sir Geoffrey Howe challenged Labour to answer three crucial questions: Does it accept Nato's strategy of nuclear deterrence? Does it want Nato to abandon nuclear weapons unilaterally? How would it defend Britain against a nuclear threat?

Recalling that Mr Kinnoch had said that it would be "immoral" for Britain to shelter under America's nuclear umbrella, the Foreign Secretary accused him of seeking to make it the first Nato country to repudiate nuclear deterrence as allied strategy.

In a speech in Witney last night, Mr Hurd said that Labour's defence policy would de-stabilise Nato.

Mr Hurd said that Labour had yet to explain how a significant medium-sized power would defend itself against the threat of nuclear attack. "Neither immediate surrender nor occupation followed by guerrilla warfare amount to a proper basis for the defence of Britain."

The damage to the headquarters was the latest episode in a history of candidate intimidation in the north London constituency, during a bitter battle for a closely fought election result.

Miss Abbott, who is regarded as part of the Hard Left of the party, claims that racially-biased hate mail and abusive telephone calls have been received throughout the constituency.

On Wednesday the Conservative headquarters was gutted by fire, causing £12,000 worth of damage. Police suspect arson, but have so far been unable to trace the culprits.

The latest incident happened yesterday morning when a brick was thrown through a window at the Labour Party offices in Stoke Newington. The candidate is Miss Diane Abbott, widely expected to be one of the first black MPs.

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Bird on the hop: Dickie Bird, the Test match umpire, after being struck by the ball during play between England and Pakistan at Old Trafford yesterday. England had reached 402 for seven by the close of play. Reports, page 44

Reagan hopeful on world economy but urges more growth

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

President Reagan yesterday spoke confidently of the prospects for the world economy. But he said that next week's 13th world economic summit must tackle the problems of agricultural surpluses, the need to maintain growth in the short-term and the threat of protectionism.

The President, speaking on a satellite link from Venice, urged the summit partners to set a target of removing all agricultural subsidies by the end of the century.

"Let's defuse this expensive arms race," he said. He also called upon West Germany to expand its economy and urged Japan to pursue its strategy of economic reform. Mr Nakasone's Government should "allow the Japanese people to enjoy more of the benefits of the remarkable economy that they have helped to build," he said.

But Mr Reagan's approach was generally conciliatory, confirming the mood among all the main summit partners, who want to avoid big disagreements which could upset the financial markets, at next week's gathering.

All nations must resist calls for protectionism, the President said, describing moves to restrict trade as "destructive".

He said that his Administration had made "real progress" in reducing the budget deficit and said that he would be appealing directly to the American people to achieve the same sort of consensus on budget reform as he had achieved for his tax reform proposals.

In spite of current difficulties, President Reagan said that he saw "a future of expanding hope and possibility" for the world economy. "Our economies are entering a new era," he said. "The world economy is in the middle of a profound transformation."

He referred to the possibilities emerging from the applications of new technologies, such as superconductivity. "We're moving from an age of things to an age of thoughts," he said.

On East-West relations, Mr Reagan attacked the economic performance of the centrally planned economies. The Soviet Union, he said, was "an example to the world of how not to run a country."

He said that an agreement on intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) would mark the end but the beginning of arms reduction worldwide. "Our ultimate goal remains to make all nuclear weapons obsolete," he said.

He added: "The free nations must remain strong and ready. We must improve our conventional defence capabilities."

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British envoys recalled from mission in Iran

By Nicholas Beeston in London, Ian Smith in Manchester and Richard Owen in Brussels

Ten members of the British mission in Tehran returned to London yesterday in a move to pre-empt a possible Iranian retaliation against British diplomats there for the expulsion of five Iranian diplomats from Manchester.

A Foreign Office spokesman described the decision to recall the three diplomats and seven dependents as a "thinning of staff whose presence is unnecessary" and a "sensible precaution" in the circumstances.

He said the group left Tehran on Thursday via Zurich, the same day that the Foreign Office announced the closure of the Iranian consulate-general in Manchester and the expulsion of its five-man staff.

The Foreign Office identified the group as: Second Secretary Mr Roger Kershaw, his wife Annick and their daughter; embassy foreman Mr Donald Rowe; visa officer Mr Terry O'Connell; Mrs Mary McDonald, the wife of Second Secretary Mr John McDonald; Mrs Angela Thornton, the wife of the archivist Mr John Thornton; Mrs Jean Russell and her daughter, the family of assistant administrative officer Mr Malcolm Russell; and Mrs Carey-Jane Ramsay, the wife of visa officer Mr Paul Ramsay.

The British action was taken after Tehran failed to account for the abduction and assault of the First Secretary, Mr Edward Chaplin, in Tehran last week. His kidnapping followed the arrest on shoplifting charges of the Iranian vice-consul in Manchester, Mr Ahmad Ghassemi.

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Reagan may strike at Iran's missiles

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The Reagan Administration has prepared contingency plans for a pre-emptive strike against Iranian missiles that could soon be operational along the critical Strait of Hormuz.

But President Reagan does not appear to have made a final decision on how to respond to the deployment of the Chinese-made "Silkworm" missiles, which US intelligence believes could be ready for use by July 1. Two senior senators just back from the Gulf said yesterday that the US should be ready to strike if the weapons are fully deployed.

Military officials are completing detailed arrangements to increase the number of US warships in the Gulf to nine in response to the rising tension.

Senator John Glenn, a Democrat who is regarded as a hardliner on defence issues, confirmed that a pre-emptive strike against the missiles is one option being considered by the Administration. He and Senator John Warner, a Republican and former Navy Secretary, said the US must not allow Iran to close the Strait of Hormuz, even if it meant military action.

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Doubts over Herald's course

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

The master of the Herald of Free Enterprise may be recalled to give further evidence to the inquiry into the loss of the ferry, after suggestions that the ship was badly off course as she left Zeebrugge before capsizing.

It was suggested that if he had known the ferry was off course it might have given an extra minute or minute and a half to avert the capsizing.

These possibilities arose from attempts by expert witnesses to assess how long the capsizing had taken and how the vessel finished up in a position about half a mile from the deep water channel.

On Thursday Dr Ian Dand, of British Maritime Technology, had given evidence that the capsizing had taken a minute or more and that the vessel had moved bodily through the water from the deep water channel as she was capsizing and was refusing to respond to the helm.

But yesterday Professor Erik Steneroth, an eminent naval architect with the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, argued that the capsizing probably took only 30 seconds and certainly not more than 40 seconds, and therefore the capsizing must have taken place close to the vessel's final resting place.

This would have meant that she left the deep water channel a minute or a minute and a half before the capsizing.

But Mr David Steel, QC, for the Secretary of State for Transport, said that if Professor Steneroth's view was correct and if Captain David Lewry or others on the bridge had realized that they were off course it might have provided an extra minute or minute and a half in which to respond.

Continued on page 24, col 2

Americans look to the dead for hot tips on life

From Charles Bremner New York

If you want to find a parking place in Manhattan, ask the advice of someone who has been dead for a few thousand years. More and more New Yorkers are doing just that in the latest manifestation of a craze for spiritualism that is sweeping the United States.

Conferring with the dead has become big business. From Manhattan to Malibu, people are searching for supernatural answers not only to the questions of existence but also to real-life problems. For about \$100 (£62) an hour, an array of mediums will commune with ascended masters, hosts of angels and "all-knowing entities," with names like Mafu and Zok, for hot tips on everything from the stock market to finding a flat.

The new mysticism was born, of course, in California, where more than 1,000 registered psychics now operate. The apostles of the "New Age" movement have won tens of thousands of converts to their doctrines, which include a belief that our souls have been around for thousands of years and have passed through many previous lives.

Leaders in the movement, such as Miss Shirley MacLaine, the actress, are packing lecture halls and producing best-sellers, telling of their past lives. Miss MacLaine says in her latest book, *Out on a Limb*, that she has been a pirate with a wooden leg, a harem dancer, a Buddhist monk, and a framer of the US Constitution. She charges \$300 for a ticket to her seminar.

A growing number of affluent and educated people are seeking fulfilment, according to the movement's disciples and the sales figures. The circulation of the *New Age Journal* has leapt from 15,000 to 150,000 in five years. The typical reader is 39 years old with a college degree.

According to a survey by the University of Chicago, 67 per cent of Americans claim to have had a psychic experience. Forty-two per cent of adults also claim to have communicated with the dead. A 1981

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Advertisement for Capital Strategy Fund Limited, featuring the headline 'The horizons have broadened for the largest umbrella fund...' and details about investment opportunities and fund performance.

NEWS SUMMARY

Court order on kitten's custody

A veterinary surgeon who believes that a pet can play a vital role in cementing human relationships has won a small claims court order against his estranged wife to compel her to return his six-month-old kitten, Cyril.

The Birman kitten looks like a Siamese with long hair. It has no cash value although nominally priced at £75 for the court action.

Mr Alan Hanson, aged 55, who works in Redruth and Penryn, Cornwall, sees the kitten as important to a happy future with a woman who befriended him after his marriage broke up. The couple were given Cyril by a friendly publican. Mr Hanson, who now lives in a Penzance bedsitter with his bull mastiff Rumbold, said: "People who form a bond together have a great need to get a kitten or a puppy, or even a budgie or something like that — and ours is Cyril".

He believes that his wife gave Cyril away and he will spend the weekend trying to track down the kitten.

Patient is set free Airbus go-ahead

A heart transplant patient remained on drugs charges was freed on "humanitarian grounds" yesterday after a court was told that his condition had deteriorated in prison.

Mr Terrence Cox, aged 44, collapsed in his cell at Marylebone court after being refused bail last week.

Mr Stephen Joelson, for the defence, said a doctor from Harefield Hospital, where Mr Cox had his operation, examined him in Brixton prison and said his condition had deteriorated.

The formal go-ahead for the building of the Airbus A330 and A340 jets was given yesterday.

The European consortium which is to build the long-range jets said that 10 airlines have now ordered a total of 130, and that this is enough to launch the project formally. The first of the new aircraft should fly in 1992.

Britain, which has a 20 per cent stake in the project, has put up £450 million of Government money to help British Aerospace to design and build the wings.

Hippies set up camp

A group of 50 hippies last night camped in Valentine's wood on private land, near Aldermaston, Berkshire, before a weekend music festival.

Numbers are expected to increase to 300 during the weekend as travellers arrive from all over the country. It is believed most campers are walking to Stonehenge for the summer solstice.



Johnston at home

Rose Johnston left prison yesterday, nearly a year after her friend, Olivia Channon, daughter of the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, died from a drink and drugs overdose.

Miss Johnston, aged 23, has served seven months of a nine-month sentence for supplying heroin to Miss Channon. She was picked up from East Sutton Park open prison, near Maidstone, Kent, by one of her sisters and a family friend and driven to the family home near Faringdon, Oxfordshire.

Ku Klux Klan scare

Police investigating a report that the Ku Klux Klan were meeting in a secluded copse found that the "sinister", white-robed figures were members of a beekeeping club.

A car sped to the copse after an anonymous tip-off to the police at Stourbridge, near Wolverhampton.

But instead of a clandestine meeting, the police found members of the Hagley and Stourbridge Beekeepers' Association, dressed in protective white shrouds, gathered around eight bee hives.

Internal dispute embroils Civil Service union

Moderate faces leadership crisis

By Tim Jones

The moderate leader of Britain's largest Civil Service union was told yesterday that he "might as well pack up his bags" unless he stands up to the Trotskyists, Militants and hard left socialists who have gained control of the national executive.

Mr John Ellis, who was elected general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association (CPSA) earlier this year, faces a constant struggle with hard-liners who have declared their intention of undermining his powers.

They are determined to establish their influence

throughout the spectrum of the Civil Service by insisting on the right to place their own appointees to positions of union power.

Previously, the hiring and firing of full-time officials has been undertaken by the general secretary but the left, by a strict interpretation of the rule book, claim that right is theirs.

Yesterday, Mr Alistair Graham, a former general secretary of the CPSA, said: "John Ellis must stand up to the extremists or his job is worth nothing. He might as well pack up his bags."

Mr Graham, who is now director of The Industrial

Society, said the right of a general secretary to allocate his staff was crucial. He had confronted the hard left over the same issue five years ago and had refused to back down.

Members could suffer if the left had its way because their interests could not be looked after if union officials who belonged to the Militant Tendency were denied security clearance to enter departments at the Ministry of Defence.

Moderates, furious with the outcome of the election for executive positions, blame apathy, claiming that the results will increase Mrs Thatcher's chance of achiev-

ing a third term in office.

Mrs Kate Losinska, the moderate senior vice-president of the union, said yesterday: "They will bring this union to its knees just as Militant did in Liverpool."

Mr John Macreadie, the new deputy general secretary and a supporter of Militant, concedes that the internal dispute could divert attention from the union's campaign for a better pay deal.

On Monday, in the wake of a ballot of the union's 146,000 members, the CPSA and the Society of Civil and Public Servants (SCPS) will start a two-day strike.

Delays are expected at airports because of action by assistant air traffic controllers. Queues could also build up at ports where customs officers are scheduled to walk out.

Job Centres, the processing of social security benefits, unemployment payments and other Department of Health and Social Security functions will all be affected.

Yesterday, Mr Leslie Christie, general secretary of the SCPS, criticized Mrs Thatcher for saying that it was not possible for people who went on strike in such circumstances to say that they cared about their jobs or the people they were serving.

Aberdeen University to lose 165 lecturers

By John Clare Education Correspondent

The crisis at Aberdeen University deepened yesterday with an announcement by Professor George McNicol, the principal, that it would shed 165 lecturers in the next two years.

His statement comes after a report in *The Times* yesterday that the University Grants Committee had rejected Aberdeen's demand for a supplement to its £22 million annual grant.

Professor McNicol said the size of many departments would have to be sharply reduced and compulsory redundancies could not be ruled out. "But I am not going to preside over the fiscal impropriety of an accumulating deficit. There can be no question of that", he said.

Professor McNicol said that the consequences of the cuts would be "severely damaging" and the university's ability to meet the challenges ahead would be seriously impaired. But he insisted that closure was not on the agenda. "Applications from students remain buoyant."

Industry has itself to blame for its failure to attract the brightest graduates, according to the Kent University annual report, published yesterday.

It says that big companies in the City are prepared to compete hard for good graduates. "They will offer challenging training schemes, competitive salaries, real responsibility, good conditions of work and attractive career prospects."

But industry, with notable exceptions, is accused of "failing to sell itself to anything like the same extent". The report says: "Too many companies leave students uncertain and unimpressed about the kinds of jobs they might enter, the training they would receive or their possible prospects within the company."

Only 10 per cent of Kent graduates entered industry last year, while 26 per cent went into commerce. That proportion had more to do with a big fall in the numbers seeking to become teachers than with any enthusiasm for careers in industry, the report says.

The Prince of Wales, president of Business in the Community, told the annual conference of the organization's southern region at Reading, Berkshire, yesterday of his hopes that small British businesses would soon start making the goods which big companies now import.

Waterloo shaken as van explodes



The scene of devastation after propane and oxygen cylinders carried in a van (above), parked in a side street near London's Waterloo station, exploded yesterday.

Offices near by were evacuated and a woman was taken to hospital. Windows were shattered and four cars were

damaged in the blast, but fears that the explosion had been caused by a bomb were dispelled after the fire brigade arrived.

A spokesman for the London Fire Brigade said that two vans had been parked next to one another in Secker St, south London. Fire broke out in one

when an oxygen cylinder and two propane cylinders exploded. Office staff were later allowed to return to work. The woman was expected to be released from St Thomas's Hospital last night after treatment for a minor back injury. (Photograph: Alan Reevell).

Unions try to stop TV satellite deal

By Robert Matthews

Two unions joined forces yesterday in a campaign to stop the contract for Britain's first space-based television network satellites going to America.

Earlier this week, British Satellite Broadcasting, which holds the franchise from the Independent Broadcasting Authority for the network, awarded the £200 million contract to build and launch two broadcast satellites to the Hughes Aircraft Company.

The manufacturing union TASS and the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians (ACTT) want the newly elected Government to step in and back the bid put in by British Aerospace. That company withdrew after being unable to match the financial package offered by Hughes.

The loss of the contract meant that "Britain and British jobs are in danger of being squeezed out of the crucial area of development in satellite broadcasting", Mr Alan Sapper, general secretary of the ACTT, said yesterday.

Mr Ken Gill, general secretary of TASS, claimed that thousands of future job opportunities would be lost.

He also said that British Aerospace management was resigned to having to make redundancies by the end of this year.

Both union leaders believe that Hughes, through winning so large a contract, would have "effective control" over British Satellite Broadcasting, and its output.

The two unions want the Government to give British Aerospace financial help on a scale they claim Hughes has received from the United States government.

Company plans 25 new hotels

By Tim Jones

Holiday Inn is seeking entrepreneurs with at least £3 million to spend on buying franchises in 25 new hotels the company is planning to establish throughout Britain.

They will form part of a new group known as "Garden Court hotels" and will be built primarily in smaller towns. The aim is to plug a gap which Holiday Inn believes exists in the market between cheap and expensive establishments.

The scheme should provide 750 jobs within 10 years and will offer the same standard of service as the company's larger hotels but with fewer facilities.

Each hotel will have between 50 and 120 bedrooms priced at today's equivalent of about £30 to £35 a night compared with £50 to £60 a night at the larger hotels.

Scargill's 10-year fight lost

By Tim Jones

The already hard-pressed funds of the National Union of Mineworkers have been put under further strain after the loss of a legal battle begun 10 years ago, by Mr Arthur Scargill, the union's president.

Legal experts estimated that the union now faces costs of at least £250,000.

It has already been forced to implement stringent economies because of a financial crisis.

The defeat for Mr Scargill came when the House of Lords upheld British Coal's practice of deducting employees' pension contributions when calculating compensation for wages lost because of accidents.

The litigation was started in 1977 by Mr Scargill, who was then president and compensation agent for the Yorkshire area of the union.

The union unsuccessfully brought a test case involving a former Yorkshire miner which involved hearings at the High Court, the Court of Appeal and finally the House of Lords.

Ulster squads step up punishment shootings

By Richard Ford

Paramilitary organizations attempting to exert influence in their own strongholds were blamed yesterday by the Royal Ulster Constabulary for the increase in "punishment attacks" in Northern Ireland.

Punishment shootings in the first four months of this year numbered more than for the whole of 1986. Police described them as a "horrific catalogue of viciousness" revealing paramilitary thugery and brutality.

The figures are disclosed in a dossier produced by the RUC which, in spite of suspicions that its release was a subtle effort to aid constitutional political parties in the

election, denies that there was anything political in its timing.

"Punishment attacks in republican and 'loyalist' areas have been a traditional method by which paramilitary organizations attempt to impose discipline and control within their own communities."

In the republican heartland of west Belfast, Provisional Sinn Fein, the political wing of the IRA, argues that such methods are used only because they are demanded by the local community but, in recent years, there has been growing opposition to such methods.

In the first four months of 1987, according to the RUC

dossier, loyalists carried out 28 punishment shootings compared with 24 for 1986 and the republicans 25 against 17 the previous year.

Among the shootings was one in which a victim, taken by loyalist gunmen to waste ground in Belfast, was shot in the leg after being ordered to roll up his trouser leg.

In another attack, a Roman Catholic man was forced to the floor of licensed premises in Falls Road, Belfast, and shot twice in each leg.

Paramilitary organizations on both sides of the sectarian divide carry out punishment shootings by attacking victims in the calf or knees and during the worst years of the troubles doctors at the Royal Victoria

Hospital in Belfast described such incidents as "the asses".

In some cases people have been shot in both the knees and elbows. Among the attacks made earlier this year was one in Londonderry where up to 30 masked men armed with hurley sticks went to the home of a Roman Catholic woman and injured her mother.

In west Belfast a Roman Catholic man was injured in the leg when he was beaten by five men wielding hammers. In the market area of the city three masked men held a Roman Catholic on the floor and broke all the fingers of his left hand with a hammer.

Cutting Polaris 'will cost millions'

By Michael Evans Defence Correspondent

A warning to Labour that its plan to decommission the four Polaris submarines could cost "hundreds of millions of pounds" has been prepared by top Civil Servants at the Ministry of Defence.

The special briefing paper is one of many which have been written by all the leading government departments setting out the implications of Labour's defence and economic policies if they win the election next week.

Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, asked all the Permanent Secretaries to prepare the briefs in case of a change in government.

It is understood that the Civil Servants were not asked to write similar reports for an Alliance government, although Sir Robert saw both Dr David Owen and Mr David Steel two weeks ago.

The Ministry of Defence briefing paper points out the potential problems of Labour's pledge to decommission Polaris, cancel Trident and remove American nuclear weapons from Britain.

Ministry sources dismissed a report that the briefing warns that the cost of decommissioning Polaris could be £2 billion. The paper merely states that it could be "hundreds of millions of pounds".

However, a full study has not been carried out by the Ministry of Defence into the cost of taking Polaris out of service.

Under a Conservative government, the Polaris submarines would be kept in service until the mid 1990s and would be phased out as the Trident boats became ready for operations.

The current estimate for the Trident programme of £9,250 million does not include the possible cost of decommissioning. That would be an added expenditure to be worked out nearer the time.

Yesterday one ministry source said that it was possible that Labour was underestimating the cost of decommissioning Polaris.

Mr Denzil Davies, Labour's defence spokesman, has said the revenue saved from keeping Polaris in service, about £500 million, would be enough to cover the decommissioning.

The ministry's briefing paper for an incoming Labour government also sets out the implications for Nato and for Britain's relationship with the US in the event of Labour carrying out its manifesto policies on defence.

One source said yesterday: "It's not our job to tell ministers what to do and what not to do. All we have done is set out the implications of Labour's defence policy."

Election reports, pages 8, 9

Sunday Times

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Hailsham's 'two terms of radical law reform'

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, who is thought unlikely to remain as Lord Chancellor for more than a few months if the Conservatives win the election, yesterday described his two terms of office as an era of law reform.

In all he had overseen 81 Acts of Parliament since 1979. In addition, there had been various reforms to legal administration and proposals for reform put forward by the civil justice review.

He said: "I believe I may justly claim that, by any standards, my two terms of office as Lord Chancellor have been marked by more continuous, extensive and radical reform than any other this century".

Lord Hailsham, who was addressing the law faculty at Bristol University on its fiftieth anniversary, also said judges should not be relied on as the main instrument of legal change.

"Judges no longer bank in the unquestioned authority enjoyed by their Victorian predecessors."

It is no longer possible for a judge to "make bold assumptions about family relationships, the relationships between landlord and tenant, employer and employee or the

citizen and the State which underlie many reforms of a seemingly legal character."

As the House of Lords had recognized, law reform was likely to raise issues of wide ranging importance and complexity "more suitable for the attention of Parliament".

Reforming the law through judges also had a disadvantage in that it depended on the relevant issue coming before the courts, Lord Hailsham said.

It could also be "extremely unjust" to the unsuccessful party in a case because all judge-made law was retrospective and applied back to the initial ruling which decided the point, he said.

The House of Lords had recognized there were dangers in disturbing retrospectively the basis on which contracts, settlements of property and fiscal arrangements had been entered into.

Nor, Lord Hailsham said, should law reform be the entire responsibility of the Lord Chancellor's Department; nor geared to the political programme of the government of the day. "This would put back the clock on the process of law reform by at least 50 years", he said.



The rescued Aston Martin DB4 with Mr Gerry Marshall, the racing driver, and his son, Gregor (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

Cliff plunge car races again

By Ruth Gledhill

A car which once plunged off a cliff for a Hammer House of Horror television series is the hot tip to win the thoroughbred sports car championship at Brands Hatch tomorrow.

Earlier this year, the 1959 Aston Martin DB4 was a rusted, crumpled and overgrown wreck lying forgotten at the base of an 80ft cliff.

But now it is back on the road and has already won in two out of three race outings this season, at Mallory Park and Silverstone.

The stunt involved the car being hurled over the almost



The wrecked stunt car as it was found at the foot of a cliff inaccessible cliff top near Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire.

The car, now worth £40,000, was wired to explode once it hit the bottom of the quarry.

"He knew we were looking for an Aston Martin to turn into a racer. He went to look for it himself but could not find it."

Last Christmas, Mr Marshall and his son, Gregor, conducted their own search and after struggling through farmyards, undergrowth and deserted quarries, they found the wreck, 60 feet away from the base of the cliff.

Using a specialist all-terrain crane supplied by Mr Geoffrey Marsh, a businessman and race sponsor, the car was lifted out on January 8, a day that was so cold that video cameras which were to film the event froze.

No-fault scheme to pay victims of medical accidents

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

A charity representing patients has supported moves by the British Medical Association to set up a pilot scheme for a no-fault compensation system for all medical accidents.

Under the state-funded scheme, patients would get automatic compensation without having to prove fault.

However the organization, Action for the Victims of Medical Accidents, said yesterday that the BMA scheme was only a partial solution to the present "costly and unjust lottery".

The charity's chairman, Mr Derek Kartun, said that most victims did not seek financial compensation but merely wanted an explanation, some sympathy and concern.

"They expect a proper measure of accountability from doctors", Mr Kartun said.

He said that if the BMA wished to adopt a system based on the Swedish legislation then it should also adopt the Swedish system of investigating complaints. Under that scheme an investigation into the cause of the accident is undertaken by a board of lawyers, doctors and lay representatives.

Writing in the charity's annual report, Mr Kartun said: "Many disasters arise from the failure of GPs to respond to calls for help. The difficult area of damage arising from drug therapy requires careful study and above all, a genuine consensus of what

constitutes an accident must emerge."

He said that the scheme would be expensive to administer and gave a warning that it should not become a cost-cutting option for the Treasury. The charity was trying to raise money to initiate a more detailed costing of the scheme, he said.

"The fresh thinking of the BMA opens the possibility of a genuine improvement in the lot of victims", Mr Kartun added.

"It must not be allowed to languish in anyone's corridors, whether in Whitehall, in Parliament or at BMA House."

The report shows that last year the charity handled 1,254 cases, of which 217 were referred to solicitors for possible legal action, 26 to the National Health Service complaints procedure and 43 to other agencies.

The bulk of the cases have been in obstetrics, including 54 cases of brain damage and 22 neonatal deaths. Gynaecological cases included loss and damage to organs, foreign bodies including one needle, 12 unsuccessful sterilizations and 19 cases of damage after hysterectomy.

Thirteen cases of cancer were not diagnosed resulting in 12 deaths and two mastectomies were later found to be unnecessary.

AVMA: Annual Report of Action for the Victims of Medical Accidents (24 Southwark Street, London SE1 1TY).

Orchestra tunes in to the pleasures of leisure

By Andrew Morgan

Members of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra were yesterday relishing the prospect of rediscovering their families and hobbies after the orchestra had announced full-time contracts for musicians to replace payment per session.

Mr John Bimson, co-principal horn, said that the contracts, costing the RPO an extra £750,000 a year, would mean a reduction in the daily dashing about to various sessions, necessary to maintain a living, and create increased spare time.

"Often, I have to work a 14-

hour day and I don't see my nine-month-old son, Daniel, or wife for days on end", Mr Bimson, the orchestra's chairman, said. "I have a share in a Cherokee light aircraft but I've flown only once this year. I'm hoping all that will change."

The principal trumpet, Mr Ray Simmons, is aiming to fit his yacht into his new relaxed life, as is the bass clarinet player, Mr Richard Addison.

Mr Barry Griffiths, the orchestra's leader, is also angling to spend more time with his family, which is now eight-strong after the addition of a baby daughter, Catherine.

A typical day at present

could be: concert rehearsals with an international soloist, a sprint to studios backing a pop singer, hurrying to record a jingle for a commercial and then a dash to the Festival Hall for the concert itself.

"Many musicians are exhausted and several soloists have complained about the lack of rehearsal time. These new contracts will mean more adventurous programming and the RPO's musicians can concentrate more on a single performance to raise standards," Mr Bimson added.

"No British orchestra is recognized as being consistently world class, but we are

hoping this new approach will elevate the RPO to being one of the best orchestras in the world, as well as the most popular."

A second orchestra, the more commercial Royal Philharmonic Pops, will take over much of the jingle-jangle work which many RPO players find necessary but banal.

The new contracts will on average pay musicians their current earnings, with principal players earning in excess of £20,000. Funding will come from increased ticket prices and possible extra support from the Arts Council.

But a change in the daily

grind will not put an end to the hectic touring schedule which includes a trip to the United States in October and a tour of Australia, New Zealand and Hawaii in August.

Mr David Herd, a violinist and younger player, said: "The main difference will be greater time to polish a performance, but it will mean that the players can plan their lives months in advance and not be constrained by commercial work which can arrive at two days' notice."

"Few musicians have much of a social life and I hope that will change. I'm aiming to take up squash and running again."

Sale room

Record £1.4m for Stubbs' painting

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A painting by George Stubbs broke all records for sporting pictures when it sold for £2,420,000 (estimate \$600,000-\$800,000) or £1,475,609 at Sotheby's in New York on Thursday night.

Maybe it was Derby day euphoria but the price sets a new record for the British sporting school. It was paid by an anonymous US collector.

The 4ft painting depicts the "Baron de Robeck Riding a Bay Cob", Stubbs, the greatest animal painter of the eighteenth century, has imbued it

with the quiet charm of British country life.

Sotheby's New York Old Master picture sale also included a record breaking price, the \$1,540,000 (estimate \$800,000-\$1.2m) or £939,024 paid by a New York dealer for Domenichino's "The Rebuke of Adam and Eve".

Christie's meanwhile set a record for unglazed Tang dynasty pottery with a 3ft chunky horse and his groom at \$572,000 (estimate \$100,000-\$150,000) or £342,515.

In London yesterday a first edition of James Joyce's *Exiles* of 1918 sold for £13,200 to Quaritch, (estimate £800-£1,200). The secret of its success was a dedication from Joyce to Ezra Pound. Pound celebrated his friendship with Joyce by a little poem:

There was once a young writer named Joyce Whose diction was ribbily choice And all his friends' woes Were deduced from his prose Which never filled anyone's purse.

THE SUNDAY TIMES ELECTION NIGHT GUIDE

WE'LL HELP YOU MAKE IT THROUGH THE NIGHT

11.30. If Torbay goes Alliance, it's thumbs up for the Davids.

12.00. If Grimsby goes Tory, it's all over bar the shouting.

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This Sunday, we give you a comprehensive armchair guide to the 100 battleground seats that will decide who wins the election.

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

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WORLD SUMMARY

Argentine officers given amnesty

Buenos Aires - The Argentine Congress gave final approval yesterday to a controversial law that will halt the human rights trials of all but a small number of high-ranking military officers (Eduardo Cué writes).

The 125 to 54 vote ended six weeks of intense behind-the-scenes manoeuvring in an effort to quell deep discontent that the trials have caused within the military establishment. Whether the law will have its desired effect remains to be seen. All officers with the rank of general or below will now be immune from prosecution on the grounds that they were "coerced". In practical terms, only between 40 and 50 retired officers may still be brought before the court.

Citizens' army plan

Manila - A citizens' army, copied from Israel's model, will soon be established to help the Philippines armed forces fight Communist and Muslim insurgents. President Aquino told graduates of the General Staff College at an army camp here yesterday (Keith Dalton writes).

The new militia force, which will be established under the newly-validated constitution, will replace the discredited Civilian Home Defence Force, which was set up in 1976 by the Marcos regime and renowned for human rights violations.

Secord's benefits

Washington - Retired Major-General Richard Secord, who said he foreswore his share of profits from the Iran arms deals, made personal use of nearly \$83,000 (£51,000) of the proceeds to buy a car, a plane and to visit a health farm, according to new evidence (Christopher Thomas writes).

Senator Paul Trible, a member of the Senate investigating committee, said it showed that the general used the money from Swiss bank accounts linked to the arms sales and the diversion of profits to the Contras.

Nato pleased by Bonn

Brussels - Nato yesterday welcomed the West German Parliament's qualified acceptance of the "double zero" solution eliminating intermediate-range missiles (Richard Owen writes).

But it added that there were still vital "fine print" details to be completed before a common Nato position could be achieved either at next week's Western summit in Venice or at the Nato foreign ministers' meeting in Reykjavik immediately afterwards.

'Defence tax' plan

Karachi (Reuters) - Opposition groups and businessmen yesterday criticized the Pakistan Government's proposal to introduce a defence tax in the 1987/88 budget. The proposal to collect 11.38 billion rupees (£398 million) from a 10 per cent tax on imports, personal income and domestic manufacturers, will come into effect from July 1 if approved by the National Assembly.

Violent strike over

Johannesburg (Reuters) - One of South Africa's most violent strikes ended yesterday when state employers agreed to reinstate 16,000 dismissed rail workers. In a significant victory for fledgling black trade unions, transport services also agreed to bring black employment more into line with white, ending a three-month dispute in which at least 11 workers died.

Business backs Hawke



Sydney (Reuters) - The Australian Prime Minister, Mr Bob Hawke, left, who is leading his Labor Party into a snap election next month, has won overwhelming support from business leaders in an opinion poll which was published yesterday.

The Financial Review said that a survey among chief executives of 200 of Australia's top 500 companies showed 63 per cent saying that Mr Hawke would win the election on July 11.

Fijian army warned

Suva (Reuters) - The Governor-General of Fiji, Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, told the armed forces yesterday that they would provoke trouble that would be difficult to stop if they abused their powers under emergency rule.

In his first address to the troops since last month's military coup plunged Fiji into a constitutional and political crisis, the Governor-General said that the army must act in the best interests of the whole country. He said he had been told stories of fear, uncertainty and doubt because of the presence of soldiers at key points in the country.

Unesco claims UK status is secure

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Senior Unesco officials sought yesterday to play down the dispute over Britain's observer status with the organization, claiming that negotiations were continuing in a "good and friendly" atmosphere, and insisting that the UK's right to observer facilities was in no way threatened.

Michel de Bonnecore, the French Deputy Director-General of Unesco, who has been delegated to carry out the negotiations with Britain, said that there were three basic points at issue: the UK's wish to continue to contribute to and participate in Unesco activities such as the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC); the UK's withdrawal of diplomatic immunities and privileges from visiting Unesco delegations; payment for the cost of Britain's observer facilities.

On the first point, there was no problem. He said Unesco was pleased that Britain should want to continue to participate in certain Unesco activities, despite its decision to leave the organization at the end of 1985.

He announced that the UK had just agreed to pay \$136,000 (£82,000) to the IOC, and \$87,000 to the World Heritage Fund. However, Britain has complained in private that it had great difficulty in getting Unesco to allow it to pay such voluntary contributions, and that it took almost a year of discussions for agreement to be reached.

On the second point, M de Bonnecore said that Unesco had asked for Unesco officials and members to have the same blanket immunities and privileges as those accorded the International Maritime

Organization - whose headquarters are in London - but that Britain was still insisting on granting such privileges on a case-by-case basis.

However, M de Bonnecore sought to minimize the importance of differences between Britain and Unesco on this matter, and expressed optimism that a satisfactory solution could soon be found.

In so saying, he brought Unesco closer to Britain's own position, as expressed in a background paper on UK observer facilities, in which Britain says that it is "convinced that the practical consequences for Unesco following the withdrawal of privileges and immunities have been minimal".

The paper expresses the British Government's "concern at what appears to be an unfortunate example of the undue politicization of a straightforward issue. The (Unesco) secretariat's preoccupation with this question remains a matter of considerable perplexity to British ministers."

According to M de Bonnecore, the only really important outstanding difference between Britain and Unesco is over Unesco's request that Britain pay the "modest sum" of \$16,000 a year toward the cost of its observer facilities. That sum was well below the real value of the weight of documents received by Britain.

Britain said it saw no reason why the UK should be treated any less favourably than any other state or organization enjoying equal facilities. The PLO and the Vatican, both of which enjoy observer status at Unesco, are not required to make any payment.

Honduras tells Contra fighters to leave in fresh setback for rebels

From Martha Honey, San José, Costa Rica

The Honduran Government and military have announced the expulsion of top anti-Sandinista leaders and have given a June 15 deadline for all Contra fighters to leave the country, according to press reports and diplomatic sources in Honduras.

These moves are Honduras's strongest crackdown so far on the presence of anti-Sandinista guerrillas and represent a setback for the US-backed Contras who have been trying to forge a new, unified and more credible alliance. For six years Honduras has served as the main base of Contra operations.

Contra sources and press reports say that the Honduran military ordered the rebel leader Señor Adolfo Calero and two others to leave the country by Saturday and barred four other officials from entering. The seven had been planning to hold the first meeting in the Honduran capital, Tegucigalpa, of their new Contra umbrella group, the Nicaraguan Resistance.

In addition, the Honduran military is reported to have announced that Contra forces in base camps along the border with Nicaragua must leave the country by June 15. For months Honduras has

been saying the Contras must get out, but this is the first time a specific deadline has been set.

The Honduran military has also threatened not to allow the large US-built airbase at Aguasate to be used in the future for Contra supply flights.

The crackdown appears to be aimed at preventing the



Señor Adolfo Calero: Must leave by Saturday.

Nicaraguan Resistance from establishing a presence in Tegucigalpa. Since Costa Rica has refused to allow such meetings it seems likely that the organization will have to continue to operate from Miami.

Meanwhile, faced with politically embarrassing fallout

from the Irangate hearings in Washington, the Costa Rican Government has reversed its decision to investigate evidence that officials here collaborated with the Reagan Administration in aiding anti-Sandinista rebels.

The US congressional hearings have made daily headlines in the newspapers and have opened a vigorous debate in the Legislative Assembly, as one witness after another in Washington has detailed how US officials convinced Costa Rican leaders to allow a build-up of Contra forces and facilities despite the official policy of neutrality.

Most incriminating has been testimony that the former Costa Rican President, Señor Luis Alberto Monge, agreed to the construction last year of a large clandestine airstrip used for Contra supply flights.

Señor Monge has denied that he permitted violations of his neutrality policy, and has claimed he is a victim of a "Communist plot".

Legislative Assembly members from the opposition Social Christian Unity Party called for the creation of a five-member special commission to investigate violations of Costa Rican neutrality.

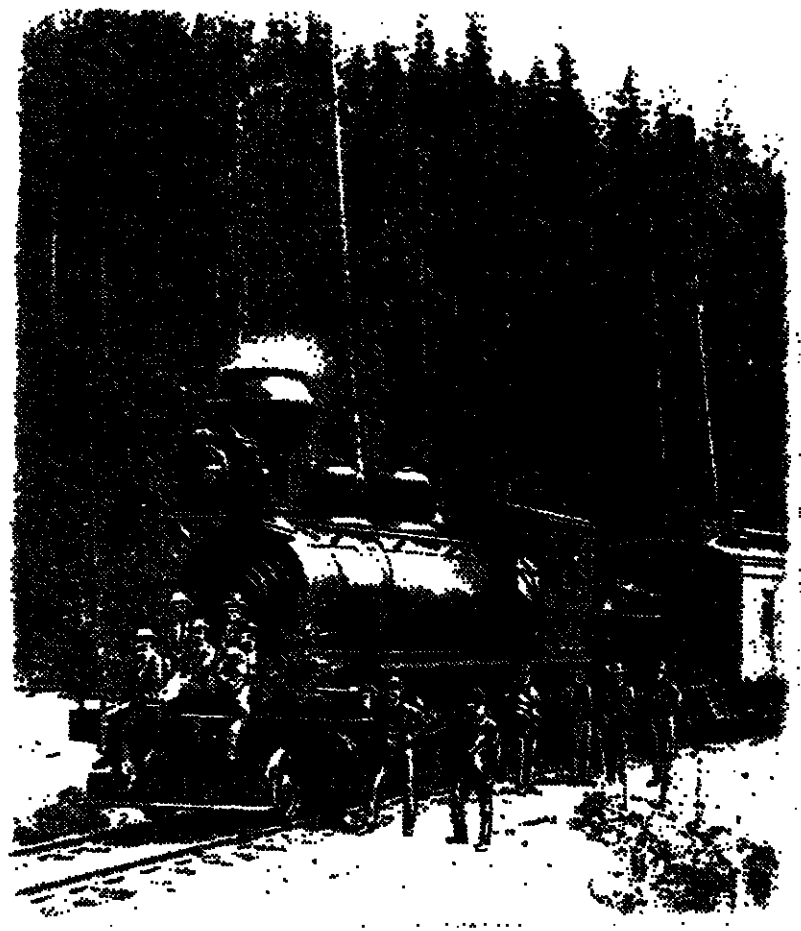
Bush recruits Marine vote



Mr George Bush, the American Vice-President, getting to grips with the military vote at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego during a campaign visit. A drill instructor Sergeant-Major Harold Overstreet, right, gave the Vice-President an instructor's hat.



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Beirut Speaker resigns over failure to find Karami killers

From Juan Carlos Guncuio, Beirut

Syria yesterday pondered the growing political uncertainties created in Lebanon by the surprise resignation of Mr Hussein Husseini, the Shia Muslim Speaker of Parliament, five days after the assassination of the Prime Minister, Rashid Karami, a Sunni Muslim.

The vacuum caused by the two events has effectively given the Syrians a greater responsibility in a country whose institutions are on the brink of total collapse.

Mr Husseini, aged 50, an MP from the Bekaa Valley, announced his resignation yesterday at a news conference at his home in west Beirut. In a brief statement, he left no doubt that he shared the widespread suspicion among Muslims that right-wing



Mr Hussein Husseini: a move without precedent.

members of the Army may have been directly involved in Karami's killing.

Mr Husseini accused President Gemayel of "hesitation and incapacity" in dealing with the new crisis and his resignation was a clear protest at the lack of results in the official investigations.

"The assassination of the Prime Minister through the participation of the Army establishment is not an act isolated from the plan aimed at wrecking the national legitimate institutions," he said.

The resignation, an event without precedent in Lebanon, came as the acting Prime Minister, Mr Salim Hoss, was quoted as saying that a total of 15 army elements were involved in planting the bomb that killed Karami as he flew into Beirut in a military helicopter on Monday.

"It should be easy to discover the culprits. All 15 elements should be interrogated," he told Beirut Radio.

According to some Muslim leaders and police investigators, the bomb which killed Karami in mid-air was placed in the helicopter that took off from a base in Adma in the Christian enclave north of Beirut.

Vice-President Abdel Halim Khaddam of Syria is said to have been highly critical of some Muslim leaders, including Mr Husseini, for their alleged lack of coherence in the campaign to force President Gemayel to accept a peace plan sponsored by Syria more than a year ago.

Sad day of make-believe

From Our Own Correspondent Bahrain

Salome Anderson's second birthday tomorrow will have about it that special quality of make-believe that has marked her life so far. She will open presents from a father who does not know he sent them, and receive a birthday card which he could never have signed. Like her journalist father, Terry, Salome is also, in her way, a hostage.

Ever since her birth in the United States in 1985 - 15 weeks after her father, Terry Anderson, was taken hostage in Beirut - Salome has been told that she would soon see her father. But a few days ago, for the first time, she asked her mother, very seriously, why her father could not come just once to see her. It was explained, gently and quite truthfully, that he wanted to do this very much but that some men were preventing him from doing so.

Nevertheless, she will be led to believe that the large card she will open tomorrow, covered in flowers and signed "With all my love, Daddy", has actually come from Terry Anderson. The handwriting is, in fact, her mother's.

Around her home, Salome's mother, Madeleine, has hung photographs of the father she has never seen. Some show Terry Anderson in the good old days, the Associated Press bureau chief in Beirut sitting in his brown office chair, the morning paper in his hands, grinning at the camera.

Then there are a series of photographs whose copyright belongs to the organization which kidnapped him and calls itself "Islamic Holy War" - Islamic Jihad - which is how Salome has come to learn what her father looks like today.

A film of Salome will be shown on Lebanese television tomorrow in the hope that Terry Anderson's kidnappers



Salome Anderson: Beirut television will show a birthday film in the hope that her father may be able to watch.

will, as they did once before on his birthday, allow him to watch. In the one private letter from captivity that he was allowed to write - in the autumn of 1985 - he wrote that he had cried when he saw Salome on television.

In the film, Salome asks her father to "come home soon" and kisses his photograph.

Mr Anderson is now the longest held American hostage

in Lebanon, one of five journalists kidnapped in the country over the past two years, and one of 24 foreigners still missing. He was last seen on a video tape released by his captors last year.

Mr Anderson's kidnappers are demanding the release of 17 men imprisoned in Kuwait for bombing the American and French embassies there in 1983.

US gets political vertigo in wake of Stark attack

From Robert Fisk, Bahrain

Rear Admiral J.B. Kerr, commander of the Royal Navy's "armilla" patrol in the Gulf, quietly stepped on board the USS Stark just week to see for himself just what an Iraqi Exocet missile could do to one of America's newest frigates.

His visit was fleeting and unpublicized, the sort of event the Foreign Office likes to keep "in perspective". The British Embassy in Bahrain insisted that it was a routine trip for Admiral Kerr, who had arranged his flight from London to Bahrain more than a month ago to talk to his American opposite number, Rear-Admiral Harold Bernsen.

Admiral Kerr's inspection of the Stark was "professional rather than political", the embassy swiftly explained, thus emphasizing the sensitivity which surrounds any British military co-operation with the Americans in the Gulf.

But, however technical his discussions, Admiral Kerr - who commands his forces from a truly olympian desk in the Ministry of Defence in London - must have been impressed by the curious sense of political vertigo which has taken hold of the Americans here in the wake of the Stark disaster.

Listening to American senators visiting Bahrain these days, a stranger might be forgiven for thinking that it was the Iranian Air Force - not Iraq - which had attacked the Stark.

A visit to the melted crew quarters on board the frigate, where several of the 37 dead crewmen were literally burnt to ashes in the Iraqi missile attack last month, is sufficient to set the senators off in a spasm of rage at the one country that had nothing to do with the American deaths.

Addressing a press conference here last week, Republican Senator John Warner, a former head of the US Navy, angrily described Iran as "a belligerent that knows no rules, no morals". Only two days earlier, his President had called Iran "a barbaric country".

Asked if he really felt comfortable about condemning Iran when it was Iraq that attacked the Stark, Senator John Glenn was reduced to abusing Iran as "the sponsor of terrorism and the hijacker of airliners".

Americans are now reminding themselves of the bombing in 1983 of the marine headquarters in Beirut. Were not the Iranians behind that? Are not America's interests invested in the Arab Gulf nations, including Iraq? Is the Soviet Union not ready to fulfill the role of policeman in the Gulf if the Americans do not stop them? It may sound logical in Washington, but in the Gulf itself, it seems as if some very dangerous obsessions are getting loose.

The main Arab beneficiary of these is President Hussein of Iraq. His pilot's attack on the Stark - appalling though it may be to Americans to think of it in these terms - has brought untold benefits to Iraq. At last the Americans are beginning to show the commitment to Iraqi victory that President Hussein has long sought.

At last Iran is being identified as a possible target of US as well as Iraqi military retaliation.

It seems as if some very dangerous obsessions are on the loose

Likewise, Moscow's preparedness to protect Kuwait tankers - with the help at present only of a single Soviet frigate which plies the Gulf once a week - has brought Kuwait the sudden and welcome support of the United States.

Almost all the Arab nations of the Gulf are now regarded as America's friends.

The Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), portrayed as the growing symbol of Arab unity in the region, helps to foster the notion that the Arabs of the Gulf live in mutual amity and common fear of the Persian enemy.

If America's adventure in Lebanon now appears misguided and perverse, surely here in the Gulf is a clear-cut case for an American military presence.

But things are not that simple. The bulk of Arab economic assistance to Iraq's war effort - an estimated \$40 billion (£24.2 billion), including large quantities of crude oil - comes from Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

But Kuwait is almost as frightened of Iraq as it is of Iran, not least because Presi-

dent Hussein, the putative saviour of the Arab nation, has always refused to sign a border demarcation agreement with Kuwait.

For their part, the Saudis already suspect that peace may be impossible if Iran's demand for President Hussein's departure is not satisfied.

The Saudis have thus quietly opened a dialogue with Tehran in which, according to Arab diplomats in the Gulf, they have made clear that President Hussein is expendable - but only if Iran's subsequent declaration of "victory" was exclusively for local consumption.

Even the Americans could not have fooled themselves into believing that the M60 tanks they delivered to Bahrain last week under US naval protection are supposed to be used against Iran.

At the moment, the Bahraini defence force is trying to find a detection avoidance system for the "blindfire" missile - which is in the hands of the Qataris.

Nor is the GCC adopting a policy of "positive" neutrality towards the Gulf war, as it likes to think. It is bound to Iraq through the common defence charter of the Arab League.

Yet, for all the joint military manoeuvres of the GCC countries, they have failed to harmonize their weapons systems.

In the end, helping the Gulf states, especially Kuwait, means helping Iraq - which is what the Americans now seem set on doing with their own naval and air power.

It would not be going too far to call this a *de facto* US-Iraqi alliance. No wonder, then, that Washington's European allies are unwilling to join the Americans in protecting Gulf shipping.

For US intervention here seems set to be even more of a fiasco than it was in Lebanon. By increasing America's flotilla of warships in the Gulf from seven to 10 and offering protection to the ships of a distinctly un-neutral nation - through suspicion of the Soviets and bitterness towards the Iranians - Mr Reagan has moved a step nearer to the very kind of foreign policy disaster with which he would least like to end his presidency.

PLO moderate to run for Jerusalem council

From Ian Murray Jerusalem

In an apparent switch in policy by the Palestine Liberation Organization, one of the PLO's best known moderate supporters has announced that he intends to head an Arab list of candidates for the next elections to the Jerusalem City Council in November of next year. This would be the first time since Israel captured the entire city 20 years ago that a Palestinian has chosen to use the democratic system.

A Palestinian boy aged 15 was shot dead yesterday when Israeli troops broke up a demonstration for the 20th anniversary of the Six Day War at Nablus, an Arab town near Jerusalem.

It calls the "armed struggle" in the occupied territories as the only means of forcing Israel to the negotiating table. In the last Jerusalem Council elections only 12,000 out of 70,000 Arab voters defied a boycott called by the PLO, which said participation would mean accepting Jewish sov-

ereignty over the city.

The list is to be headed by Mr Hanna Siniora, editor of the East Jerusalem newspaper *al-Fajr*, who chose the anniversary of the Six-Day War to make the announcement. It would still be a long time before a Palestinian state could be created, he said. In the meantime there was no reason why the Arabs should not have their voice on the council.

"This does not mean we relinquish sovereignty over East Jerusalem," The idea of an Arab list was put

forward earlier this year by Mr Sari Nusseibeh, a professor at the West Bank University of Bir Zeit. He suggested it as the best way of confronting the creeping annexation of the territories by Israel. Mr Siniora, who was approved by both the PLO and Israel to act as a member of a proposed Jordanian-Palestinian negotiating delegation two years ago, is an obvious choice to head the list.

The announcement was welcomed by Mr Teddy Kollek, the Mayor of Jerusalem.

'Moral decay' brings Church intervention in Italian election campaign

From Roger Boyes, Rome

A few yards outside the Vatican walls there is a newspaper kiosk, one of thousands in Rome, displaying the latest magazines, even the most serious of which feature pretty, undressed women.

"The Clergy," said one headline, "the Naked Truth". A man in a cassock is shown fondling a girl. "A special survey," announces the billboard, "the secret life of priests - 70 per cent have mistresses."

This kind of cheeky anticlericalism is rampant in Rome, and the media are not inhib-

ited by any questions of taste. What do the cardinals make of this nonsense as they walk to and from St Peter's Square?

It takes an election campaign to prise out church distaste for the moral condition of Italy. The Italian bishops recently issued a pastoral letter setting out how the voters should make up their minds. Many cardinals have announced publicly their voting intentions. And even the Pope has entered the fray, roundly condemning the corruption and turpitude of Italian society and urging Italians

to vote for the "Christian choice".

Although the advice is ecclesiastically coded, it all boils down to the most flagrant Catholic church support for the Christian Democratic Party for more than a decade.

After the war the Church made no secret of wanting a "Catholic Italy" and did its best at every turn to thwart the rise of the Communists. In 1948 it was declared a sin to vote Socialist or Communist, and the following year anyone who did so was excommunicated.



At the time the Italian Church's hierarchy was intimately involved with the Christian Democrats. Bishops vetoed and proposed candidates for elections and

guided the selection of Cabinet ministers. This policy was rolled back under Pope John XXIII (symbolized by his audience with Nikita Khrushchev's daughter and son-in-law) and the Church became more tolerant of other parties.

But Italy has become more and more secular, defying Vatican intervention and passing both a divorce and an abortion law. Catholics urged to vote against the laws in referendums rejected the instructions of the church hierarchy. Since the 1970s, church attendance has dropped dramatically, contraceptives are on open sale at

Italian chemists and many women are making use of the abortion laws.

The Pope, who is also Bishop of Rome, is hurt by the fact that secularization has gained such pace under his pontificate; many of his entourage believe it undermines his authority when he travels the world urging a return to spiritual values.

Thus, at a series of recent Masses during this election campaign, the Pope has been preaching in his most gloomy mode, declaring that "the Saracens are at the gate", that barbarian and hedonistic values will soon swamp Italy. In

such times, he has said, it is all the more important to preserve "the unity of Catholics" - the traditional appeal on behalf of the only explicitly Catholic party, the Christian Democrats.

There was immediate outrage from all parties except, of course, the Christian Democrats. Socialist politicians argued that the Pope tries to stamp on political priests in South America, yet is deploying his political artillery in Italy.

Bishop Loris Capovilla, former Secretary to Pope John XXIII, shot back with: "Each time we open our mouths we

are told to get back to the seminary. In fact, bishops are citizens like any others and have the right to deal with worldly matters. I'm not suggesting a party to anybody, but I can declare with certainty that I shall vote for the Christian Democrats."

The Communists have remained strangely silent throughout. Why, asked a telephone caller to an election phone-in programme the other day. Because, came the slightly sheepish reply from a Communist official, many Catholics vote Communist. There was no point in confusing them.

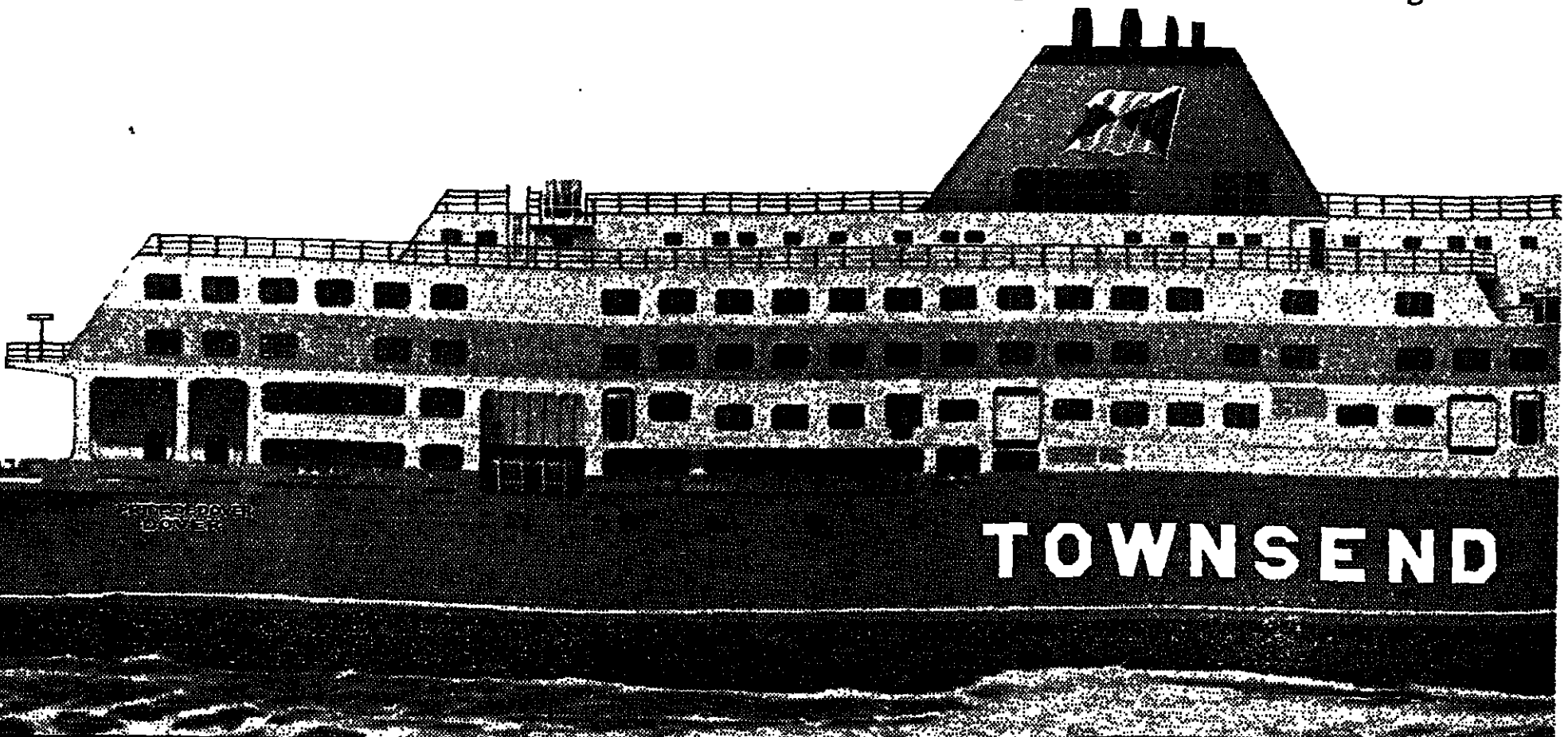
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TOWNSEND

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Vertical text on the right margin: Colombo relief famils w

Sri Lankan crisis

Colombo launches own relief programme as Tamils worry over sons

From Michael Hamlyn, Velvettithurai

As Sri Lankans yesterday digested their anger and their frustration at their own helplessness in the face of what many were calling Indian arrogance, the Sri Lankan Government put into motion its own relief programme in the northern Jaffna peninsula.

Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, the National Security Minister, Dr Ranjit Atapattu, the Health Minister, and Mr Lionel Jayatilaka, the Rehabilitation Minister, toured the area newly seized from the control of Tamil separatist rebels, and tried to galvanize the civil administration back into action.

They supervised the immediate distribution of free food rations to the people of the towns which had been bitterly fought over in the past week, and made instant arrangements for payments for the repair or rebuilding of houses damaged by the battles and the bombs.

Mr Athulathmudali pointedly contrasted the 25 tons of Indian supplies dropped over Jaffna peninsula by Thursday's air armada with the 900 tons which, he said, had already been delivered by the Sri Lankan administration.

In any case the supply of free food did not seem to be the main worry of the anxious people of the area. They queued in the hot sun in a temple yard while helmets of rice, sugar and flour were distributed. But what they were really anxious about was the fate of their sons.

Virtually a whole generation of young men has been taken away by the security forces for screening. The authorities now estimate that 4,000 have been carted off in boats to the southern detention and investigation camp at Boosa.

According to Mr Athulathmudali, perhaps 1,500 of them will not come back. A third of these, he said, based on previous experience, would be identified as having been actively involved with the terrorists, a third as helpers, and another third as supporters.

Twelve teams of investigators were being lined up to conduct the screening, armed with a network of informers. If three sources separately identified a man as a terrorist that would be good enough to keep him locked up.

But the Minister tried to assure parents that their sons would be dealt with expeditiously and the innocent released. In particular he said, he was ready to release students with examinations coming up shortly.

He said that his wife, together with other members of the Sevavanitha - the Sinhalese equivalent of the WRVS - were visiting Boosa camp and dealing with any welfare problems that came up.

The first man to greet the Minister as he arrived at the food distribution centre was a port authority manager who

apparently to visitors. This was the place the guerrilla fighters of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) had made their principal headquarters. It was stoutly defended by a two-mile network of interconnecting bunkers, according to Brigadier Gerry de Silva, the commander of the Palsy base where the operations began.

Taking the town took two days, and the destruction was considerable. Houses have been turned into rubble along one stretch of the main road. The main bazaar of the town, deserted after previous onslaughts by the security forces, was even further damaged.

South of the main street, houses, sheds, huts and hovels were shattered or burned. Many people have still not been allowed back to the homes they fled from in face of the advancing troops, because, said General Cyril Ranatunga, the Chief of the Armed Forces, of the danger of booby traps.

"I was very hurt by allegations that my men are laying mines for returning Tamils," he said. "So I must be assured that they are clear before the people can go back."

The people of Velvettithurai are still shocked by what has happened to their town. The bombing started at 5.45 am. Then at 10 o'clock they began leafletting from the air saying we should go to the certain temples. We were very, very frightened, but we went, one man said.

"A lot of people were killed, but I think they were foolish. They were sheltering in their bunkers and when the shooting started they looked out to see what was happening. In the dark a soldier can't see who is a terrorist and who is not, so naturally they shot them."

"My son-in-law was shot and killed," said one father sadly. "He was riding his bicycle to get some food for his child and he was shot by a helicopter from the air." Estimates of the total number of the civilians killed are going to be argued over for a long time. It is plain that the army figure of 49 is a clear underestimate. At the same time the Indian newspaper figure of 600 is an exaggeration.

desperately pleaded with him to release his sons. Holding his hand, while the father's voice cracked with grief, he promised to investigate.

He also promised to deal quickly with sons of the lowest caste Hindus, who had traditionally supported the ruling United National Party, rather than the Tamil parties.

"We were told our sons would only be taken for an hour or so," said one father, a local schoolmaster whose eyes were swimming. "So we sent them out when they were called. Now we have not seen them for two days. I don't know what to do. I have not shaved. I have not eaten for two days. My wife too is fasting."

For the first time the extent of the devastation of this little seaboard town has become

Montreal honour guard for Queen Mother



Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother inspecting a guard of honour provided by the Black Watch at the City Hall in Montreal. Earlier, she was welcomed at the start of her five-day visit to Canada by the Prime Minister, Mr Brian Mulroney, his wife, Mila, and the Governor-General, Mrs Jeanne Sauvé, in Ottawa (AP reports from Ottawa).

Botha township visit scores a victory in propaganda

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The largely stage-managed visit of President Botha of South Africa to the black townships of Sharpeville and Sebokeng this week enabled him to score some useful propaganda points, but achieved little of any lasting political significance.

It is not too hard to persuade a few thousand people to turn out on occasions like this. Even the spontaneity of the welcome he received when he visited a Sharpeville home can be explained by the courtesy of most blacks and the novelty of finding him in their midst.

The chief, and no doubt intended, effect of the visit will probably be to reinforce Mr Botha's belief that he understands what most blacks want. As he sees things, most blacks are reasonable and moderate people, no keener on majority rule than he is because, he maintains, the smaller tribes fear domination by the larger ones.

The 71-year-old Mr Botha grew up on a farm where he played with the children of his parents' black farm-hands and learned a few words of their language.

Since succeeding Mr John Vorster as Prime Minister in 1978, Mr Botha has only twice spent any time in black townships - in 1979, when he toured Soweto, the black satellite city of Johannesburg, and last Thursday in Sebokeng and Sharpeville.

At the political level his most regular contacts are with the respectful and conservative chief ministers of the tribal homelands.

Mr Botha has twice met Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the leader of the Anglican Church in southern Africa, but no meeting of minds occurred. More to his liking is a churchman almost unknown outside South Africa. Bishop Barnabas Lekganyane, the leader of the politically quiet Zion Christian Church (ZCC),

the largest of the independent black African denominations. The one black politician of note with whom Mr Botha might come to terms is Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the conservative leader of the Zulu-dominated Inkatha organization. An alliance between the Afrikaners and the Zulus is a nightmare that haunts white liberals and black radicals alike. But Chief Buthelezi still insists on the release from jail of Nelson Mandela and the lifting of the ban on the outlawed African National Congress as pre-conditions for serious negotiations.

Even Mr Esau Mahlatsi, the Mayor of Sharpeville and the other townships in the area, who was Mr Botha's at times obsequious host on Thursday, said no reform would succeed which did not aim at the inclusion of black and white in the same parliament on equal terms. That is still way beyond anything Mr Botha is prepared to concede.

Chinese test nuclear bomb

Stockholm (Reuters) - China, one of the world's five nuclear military powers, detonated a nuclear bomb yesterday at its Lop Nor test site in western China, Swedish military scientists reported.

The underground nuclear explosion, China's first since December 1984, was probably less than the 150-kilotonne limit agreed by the unratified 1974 Threshold Ban Treaty between the US and the Soviet Union, according to the scientists.

Army inquiry into deaths

The Ministry of Defence is to hold an inquiry into the deaths of two British soldiers on a high technology army exercise in Canada.

Lance Bombadier Matthew Charles Walters, aged 21, of Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, and Warrant Officer Trevor Smith, aged 32, a married man of Rockcliffe, near Carlisle, died when they were struck by a military truck.

Lawyer barred

Penang (Reuters) - An Australian lawyer, Mr Gary Larbalestier, has been refused permission to defend Lorraine Phyllis Cohen, aged 44, and her son Aaron Shelton Cohen, aged 21, of Mount Roskill, Auckland, New Zealand, charged with drug smuggling, an offence which carries the death sentence under Malaysia's strict drug laws.

Greens sit-in

Bonn - Nearly 30 Greens MPs took part in a sit-in outside a Pershing missile base at Geilenkirchen, on the West German-Dutch border, only a day after the Bundestag approved Chancellor Kohl's demand that the weapons be excluded from any superpower deal on Euro-missiles.

Honecker off

Amsterdam - Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, ended a three-day official visit to The Netherlands, the first by an East German leader and only Herr Honecker's third to a Nato country.

Typhoon hits

Dhaka - Twelve people were killed and at least 10,000 made homeless as a typhoon battered southern Bangladesh, whipping up water from the Bay of Bengal.

Aids campaign

Madrid - With a death toll of more than 200 Spaniards from Aids, the Government is to launch an information campaign against the risks of catching the disease.

Rhine inquiry

Basle (Reuters) - The Swiss chemical firm Sandoz AG said it was facing a criminal investigation over a warehouse blaze last November which led to heavy pollution of the River Rhine.

Biblical injunction a £28 million threat to Israeli crops

From David Bernstein Jerusalem

The ancient injunction given to Moses on Mount Sinai, to leave fallow the Land of Israel every seventh year, is currently at the heart of a religious row that could cost the modern-day Jewish state up to £28 million this year in destroyed wheat crops.

Some 250,000 tons of wheat are awaiting harvest in the

"And the Lord spake unto Moses on Mount Sinai, saying Speak unto the children of Israel and say unto them, When ye come into the land which I give you, then shall the land keep a Sabbath unto the Lord. Six years thou shalt sow thy fields, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof; But in the seventh year, shall be a Sabbath of rest unto the land, a Sabbath for the Lord: Thou shalt neither sow thy fields, nor prune thy vineyard." (Leviticus XXV, 1-4)

northern Negev after a record rainfall last winter. The wheat was planted even though it is currently the biblical Shnat Shamita, or Sabbatical year, on the

strength of a time-honoured subterfuge sanctioned by the Chief Rabbinate involving the symbolic "sale" of all agricultural land to a non Jew.

But this year, the country's fanatical ultra-Orthodox community, spearheaded by Shaf, the Torah Guardians Party, has challenged the Chief Rabbinate's position by claiming that it is not permissible under Jewish law to alienate parts of the Land of Israel.

Shaf's opponents in the more liberal National Religious Party are alleging that Shaf has taken advantage of its recent political alliance with the Likud government coalition grouping to persuade the Trade Minister, Mr Ariel Sharon, not to oblige the country's flour mills to buy this year's domestic crop.

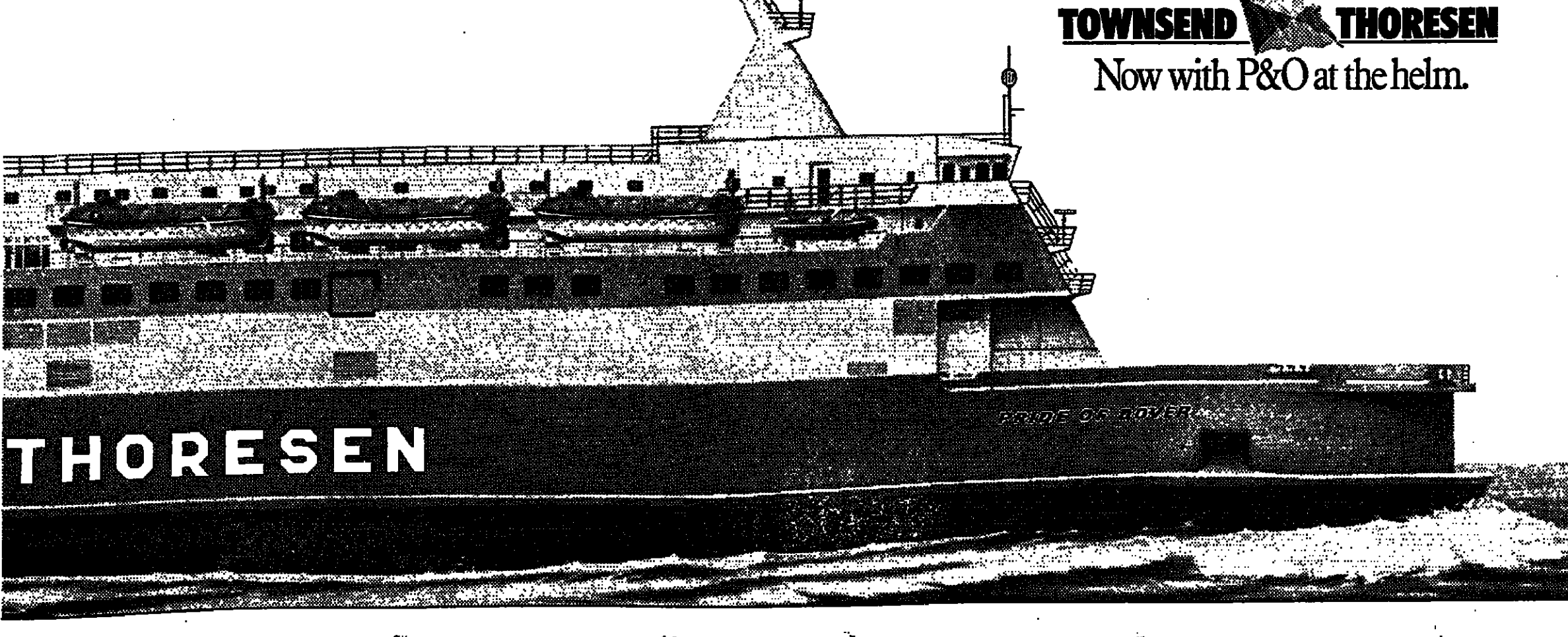
The flour mills themselves are in any case reluctant to do

so, fearing that they will lose the custom of many bakeries which rely on certificates from the ultra-Orthodox community to remain in business.

According to the political secretary of the National Religious Party, Mr Shaul Yabotom, the result is that Israel's farmers will have to be subsidized to the tune of \$50 million (£31 million) if this year's wheat crop is not purchased locally.

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TOWNSEND THORESEN Now with P&O at the helm.

Conservatism 'is Christian'

By Philip Webster and Barbara Day

Christianity made its first appearance in the election campaign yesterday when the Prime Minister and Mr Kinnock faced questions about their religious beliefs.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher equated Conservative values with Christianity, while Mr Kinnock agreed that he was not even sure enough about his own beliefs to call himself an agnostic.

Mrs Thatcher hit back sharply at criticism of the Government from churchmen by saying that the right to choose was the essence of morality and religion. She rejected any suggestion that the Tories' approach was immoral.

Her remarks came in an interview on BBC Radio Two when she was asked about criticism of the Government from the church, including yesterday's article in *The Times* by the Bishop of Durham.

However, in contrast to Mrs Thatcher, Mr Kinnock did not take such an absolute view since he was not even sure if he was a "don't know".

Answering questions from a group of voters from the Cheltenham, Dudley West and Calder Valley constituencies on *Channel Four News* last night he was tackled on the subject by a Christian Labour supporter.

Mr Kinnock said: "We had doubts, both of us, and tried to

rationalize those doubts. There is a leap of faith that I would quite like to make but I cannot make. It is a question I have debated with my friends since I was about 17 or 18 and the leap of faith is the belief in eternal life."

However, Mr Kinnock added that he approved of Christian values and he and his wife tried their best to practise them. If he had a nostrum or guide he thought it would be from Matthew 25: "In as much as you do it unto the least of these my brethren you do it unto me".

But he added: "I think it better in my relationships with other people and for my own peace of mind not to pretend to myself that I am what I am not. Gleanys and I could not be regarded as atheist. We are not even

sure enough to be agnostics, to tell you the truth."

The Prime Minister had no such doubts, but she said she was hurt by accusations that she was hard and uncaring. She felt "very strongly indeed" about criticisms that there was something immoral in the Government's approach.

She said: "The essence of human rights is that each person can choose between right and wrong. That is the essence of morality, that is the essence of religion."

"If you were to take away so much in tax that people did not have the choice, if you take away from them responsibility for their families and their children, I would say that that is wrong. "How can you develop your

character, develop your responsibilities, if you are not allowed the right to choose? As I understand it the right to choose is the essence of Christianity."

She said that no government has the right to take away everything from people and to make their decisions for them. "There are such governments, they are called communists. They recognize no effective religion, they recognize no human rights."

"Choice is the essence of morality. Deprive people of that and you have a communist state. You have people saying that things shall be provided collectively and that you shall have no responsibility because we have deprived you of the money. That will be a communist state."

Jenkins rebukes Steel over rift

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The damaging split between Dr David Owen and Mr Denis Healey over whether they could work with Mrs Margaret Thatcher in a hung Parliament continued to plague the Alliance yesterday, dominating a morning press conference that had been intended to ram home the positive case for coalition government.

Mr Roy Jenkins, the former SDP leader, delivered a side-long rebuke to Mr Steel, saying that it was "unwise" to try to dictate to other parties' leaders.

Dr Owen refused to repeat Mr Steel's assertion the previous day that he would not serve in a Thatcher government and said the Alliance would be prepared to talk to her.

Mr Steel, in a masterpiece of circumlocution, said that his assertion was "over-crude and over-simple" but was a "blunt, straight answer" made to hecklers. It was designed to drive home the point that within "the realms of political reality" there was no way that the Alliance would be "in bed" with Mrs Thatcher the day after the election.

He would not rule out the possibility that the Alliance would demand her departure as the price of its support.

Underlying the argument between the two leaders is Mr Steel's conviction that anti-Thatcher voters will turn to Labour if they believe that the Alliance would allow her to continue in office.

With the Alliance rooted firmly at about 21 per cent in the polls, Dr Owen also displayed his first outward signs of frustration.

Asked why, after three

weeks of unprecedented publicity, the Alliance was doing worse than in any other campaign it had fought, the SDP leader reported that "this campaign has been rather damagingly dominated by pollsters and pundits".

The campaign's effectiveness could be judged only on polling day. After that, if needs be, he would submit himself "to the judgements and criticisms of our parties... all we know is that we have fought and will continue to fight an honest, truthful, fair and thoughtful campaign and we believe that that will have its return in the respect, the commitment and the votes of the people".

Mr Jenkins said that he accepted people's right to refuse to serve in a Cabinet and expressed his repugnance for some senior members of both other parties.

But, in a clear dig at Mr Steel, he said the first duty of the Alliance was to reach agreement with the largest party so that the views of a majority of the electorate were represented. "That might well involve one or other party's changing their leadership but it is usually unwise to try and dictate that from outside the party."

Mr Steel contended that it was inconceivable that Mrs Thatcher would stay on if she lost her majority, but continued: "If you push us further and say it is absolutely impossible and under no circumstances ever in this world, hypothesis on hypothesis, that we would dictate to the Tory Party who should be their leader, then the answer is: No, you can't put us in that position."

The bitter public feud that ensued between national and constituency committees has died down, but it has been about as welcome as a miners' strike to her successor's efforts to overturn a slender Tory majority.

The job of repairing the damage has been given to Mr Mohammed Aslam, a mild-mannered chartered accountant who is also a justice of the peace and a county councillor.

Mr Aslam and his supporters insist that nobody apart from Tory election agents and right-wing newspapers care in the least about the Atkin dispute, and that it has had no effect on voters.

"It is not an issue on the doorstep, Sharon Atkin is yesterday's news," his agent says. "No problem", Mr Aslam says. "People are more concerned about health care, education and unemployment than about who the candidate is." He may have a point. There are almost 10,000 out of work in the constituency, double the national average.

The thoughts of journalists and politicians hang on this guide. The party leaders all say they do not comment on individual polls before proceeding to comment on them, especially if they are favourable. And the Stock Exchange flutters excitedly if they hint at any trend that might deprive Mrs Margaret Thatcher of her clear majority.

Polls can err. In 1970 and in both the 1974 elections the consensus of the polls seriously overestimated the chances of the incumbent party. In each case there really does seem to have been a last-minute swing. It was not the technique of the pollsters but the volatility of the electorate that caused the trouble. But in each of those elections and in every subsequent contest there has been the occasional rogue poll, suggesting a sharp change in the lead.

Sampling theory provides that one poll in 20, giving 1,000 respondents, will be six per cent out in its measurement of



"I'm an agnostic, but I know that you're on my side."

Campaign workers try to obey Healey's First Law of Holes

By Gavin Bell

Labour campaign workers in Nottingham East have accepted the wisdom of what Mr Denis Healey once called the First Law of Holes: when you're in one, stop digging.

The pitfall in question was created by the removal of Miss Sharon Atkin, the black activist Labour candidate, after she had accused the party of racism.

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"It is not an issue on the doorstep, Sharon Atkin is yesterday's news," his agent says. "No problem", Mr Aslam says. "People are more concerned about health care, education and unemployment than about who the candidate is." He may have a point. There are almost 10,000 out of work in the constituency, double the national average.

and more than half of them have been that way for a year or more.

Mr Aslam does not consider himself to be a second choice because he gained the most nominations — eight to Miss Atkin's three — in the initial selection process. That demonstrates grassroots support, he says. If further evidence were required, he increased his majority in local elections from 100 in 1981 to 1,000 in 1985.

For someone of such apparent popularity, Mr Aslam displays little charisma. Not for him the hail-fellow-well-met-vote-for-me approach.

In the Hyson Green Community Centre, faced with young mums drinking mugs of tea and kids scrambling about the floor, he had little to say, listening politely while his agent did most of the talking about the problems of running day-care centres and toy libraries.

Mr Aslam appeared ill at ease in a shopping centre near

by as his enthusiastic minder accosted women with leaflets and introductions to their Labour candidate. A perfunctory shake of the hand, and Mr Aslam had turned his back to converse with a Pakistani constituent in Urdu. The ladies smiled uncertainly, and moved on.

"The situation is very hopeful", he said.

Mr Michael Knowles, defending a 1,464 majority for the Conservatives, has a different strategy. Stepping from his campaign van in an affluent suburb, he waves a cheery greeting to passers-by before promising the elderly residents of a private rest home that he will do something about getting a car round for them on June 11.

While Labour is assiduously burying the Atkin affair, Mr Knowles is doing his best to resurrect it.

"It's an important factor. It's all part of the growing lunacy of the left which is making Labour voters stop and consider the way the party is going. The virus is creeping. It's hit London, Liverpool, Birmingham, now it's moving in to smaller cities like Nottingham. Where does it end? It can only do harm."

Mr Knowles's priority is thus to convince voters that "Miss Atkin is the real face of the Labour Party today". The problem with filling in holes, as Mr Aslam may discover, is that there's always somebody around to dig them again.



Mr Aslam: "Nobody cares about the Atkin dispute."

Time to cross fingers despite research

By David Butler

Polls have become the spinal cord of the election. Issues come and go but each day there is the poll of polls, the average indications of how our collective intentions are moving.

The thoughts of journalists and politicians hang on this guide. The party leaders all say they do not comment on individual polls before proceeding to comment on them, especially if they are favourable. And the Stock Exchange flutters excitedly if they hint at any trend that might deprive Mrs Margaret Thatcher of her clear majority.

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POLL WATCH

the party lead. So never believe a single poll. But when several polls by reputable firms say much the same thing, believe them as a fair representation of what people were thinking at the time they were taken.

It takes a few days for any important speech or event to have its effect on opinion. All the polls we get are necessarily out of date. At this very

moment massive changes in voting intention may be going on in the hearts of our fellow citizens that will not be recorded until several days have passed. By-elections have shown how large the last-minute swings can be.

Elections are, of course, decided by seats not votes. The polls collectively cannot say how many seats will go to the party that gets 39 or 40 per cent of the vote. It is easy to say what would happen on any given uniform nationwide

OPINION POLL RATINGS

| Field work | Poll | Con | Lab | All | OTH | Size | Published |
|------------|---------|------|------|------|-----|-------|------------------|
| May 13 | Marplan | 41.0 | 30.0 | 28.0 | 3.0 | 1,020 | Daily Express |
| May 13-14 | Harris | 42.0 | 33.0 | 28.0 | 2.0 | 1,040 | Observer |
| May 11-14 | MORI | 44.0 | 30.0 | 25.0 | 1.0 | 1,521 | Sunday Times |
| May 16-17 | Harris | 42.0 | 32.0 | 24.0 | 1.0 | 1,058 | TV-am |
| May 18 | Marplan | 41.0 | 33.0 | 24.0 | 2.0 | 1,072 | Today |
| May 20-21 | Harris | 43.0 | 35.0 | 20.0 | 1.0 | 1,078 | TV-am |
| May 20-22 | Gallop | 42.0 | 33.0 | 23.0 | 2.0 | 1,432 | Sunday Telegraph |
| May 19-20 | Gallop | 41.0 | 33.0 | 21.0 | 4.0 | 1,517 | Daily Telegraph |
| May 21 | Marplan | 41.0 | 33.0 | 21.0 | 4.0 | 1,517 | Guardian |
| May 20-21 | Harris | 41.0 | 34.0 | 22.0 | 3.0 | 1,068 | Observer |
| May 20-21 | MORI | 44.0 | 31.0 | 24.0 | 1.0 | 1,328 | Sunday Times |
| May 20-22 | Gallop | 44.0 | 33.0 | 21.0 | 2.0 | 1,432 | Sunday Telegraph |
| May 22-25 | Harris | 42.0 | 37.0 | 21.0 | 1.0 | 1,075 | TV-am |
| May 26 | Marplan | 42.0 | 35.0 | 20.0 | 3.0 | 1,038 | Today |
| May 26-27 | Gallop | 44.5 | 36.0 | 18.0 | 1.5 | 2,506 | Daily Telegraph |
| May 26-29 | Harris | 45.0 | 32.0 | 21.0 | 2.0 | 1,067 | TV-am |
| May 28 | Marplan | 44.0 | 32.0 | 21.0 | 3.0 | 1,553 | Guardian |
| May 27-28 | MORI | 44.0 | 32.0 | 23.0 | 1.0 | 1,188 | Sunday Times |
| May 27-28 | Gallop | 41.5 | 34.0 | 22.5 | 2.0 | 1,271 | Sunday Telegraph |
| May 27-28 | Harris | 41.0 | 37.0 | 21.0 | 1.0 | 1,072 | Observer |
| May 28 | Marplan | 44.0 | 35.0 | 21.0 | 2.0 | 1,653 | Today |
| June 1 | Harris | 42.0 | 36.0 | 20.0 | 2.0 | 1,373 | TV-am |
| June 2 | NOP | 43.0 | 34.0 | 20.0 | 3.0 | 1,989 | Independent |
| June 2-3 | Gallop | 40.5 | 36.5 | 21.5 | 1.5 | 2,593 | Daily Telegraph |
| June 4 | Marplan | 44.0 | 34.0 | 20.0 | 2.0 | 1,576 | Guardian |

Therefore we look eagerly at the special marginal surveys. And here the pollsters are far more confusing than in their nationwide reports. So we must wait with fingers crossed. The Conservatives seem to be ahead in every nationwide poll by a percentage that would guarantee them a clear majority in the next House of Commons.

But if there is a late swing — as there has been in the past — or if *Newsnight* and *Weekend World* are right about the marginals, we could just have a hung Parliament. The odds against it are heavy. But they are not overwhelming. David Butler is a Fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.

ELECTION SUMMARY

Londoners promised new elected council

London under Labour would be run by a new council with wider powers than the disbanded GLC, the party co-ordinator, Mr Bryan Gould, disclosed yesterday. Elected councillors would be given a say in the growth of important developments, such as docklands, he said.

They would also be given the power to invest in local projects by raising capital from outside sources. The Labour manifesto talks only of setting up a democratically elected strategic authority for London.

Mr Gould said that setting up the new council would be a top priority — "It is a nonsense that London does not have an elected council like every other major city in the world. The Tory decision to abolish the GLC has cost London an estimated £175 million." Now the Tories had "bizarre proposals" to sell off council estates over the heads of tenants to private landlords.

MI5 case Economy reviewed 'shame'

Labour said yesterday that it would probably abandon the attempt to prevent the publication in Australia of the memoirs of Mr Peter Wright, the former MI5 man. But the shadow attorney general, Mr John Morris, stressed that if elected he would be taking advice before deciding whether to pull out of the Appeal Court case.

The Government had had "three black eyes" on the secrets issue — once in Australia, once in the Irish courts about another spy book, and once in London over disclosures by British newspapers.

Kinnock Sinn Fein declines

The Labour Party leader, Mr Neil Kinnock, has pulled out of making a speech to a major rally in Cambridge tonight. He will be replaced by Mr Roy Matherley.

His officials said that he was making an important speech in Leicester and again in London on Sunday.

They denied any suggestion that Mr Kinnock would not be at Cambridge because the strain of his punishing campaign schedule was beginning to tell.

Tory claims that Britain's was the strongest economy in the West were "the reverse of the truth", Dr Owen told an Alliance rally in Edinburgh last night.

Predicting that Mrs Thatcher would make such a boast at the Venice economic summit, Dr Owen said she had nothing to boast about but "a good deal to feel ashamed of".

The picture of Britain built up by the Tories was "unrecognizable to our international partners whether in the European Community, Nato, the Commonwealth or the OECD".

Electoral absentees

Almost 17 per cent of adults in inner-city areas are missing from the electoral register, according to a survey sponsored by the Commission for Racial Equality.

Most have a genuine reason, such as ineligibility through nationality or a recent change of address, but many have simply opted out of the system. The survey found that at 8.4 per cent black people had the highest proportion of non-registration, about twice as high as for Asians and whites.

Dr Michel le Lohé, senior lecturer in politics at the school of social sciences at Bradford University, who carried out the survey, said yesterday that the findings foreshadowed "enormous difficulties" in preparing an accurate register for the proposed community charge to replace the present rating system.

Times election guide

Next week, *The Times* will provide matchless coverage of the final phase of the General Election campaign.

A four-page guide will appear on Tuesday with a complete list of candidates, a full map of constituencies and charts to help to make sense of the final predictions.

Overnight constituency results will appear on Friday and a detailed guide to the new House of Commons will be published in a special supplement on Saturday — plus a full analysis of voting patterns. Make sure that you have ordered your copies of *The Times* for next week.

Hung parliament's merits on display

By Allan Massie

There is one good reason for welcoming a hung parliament and that is Mr Roy Jenkins. Anyone watching BBC's *Question Time* must have been convinced that they were listening to a natural man of government.

We depend on the good sense of the electors of Hillhead to keep him in the Commons, but whatever their decision Mr Jenkins will remain the best prime minister we never had since Rab Butler.

One good reason for not welcoming a Labour government is Mr Roy Jenkins. The German example, he suggested, showed that hung Parliaments were "fine for ambitious doctors who want to be foreign minister". This raised a chuckle and Mr Hattersley beamed, till the other Roy observed that Herr Genscher, leader of the Free Democrats, was one of the few German politicians who was not a doctor.

But the Hattersley master stroke came in response to the last question when he was asked why his party should be elected. "Because we care, because we care enough for the pensioners, the schoolchildren, the sick, the unemployed, actually to describe how we could help them, and if necessary, alienate those minorities who do not want to help them, but keep the money in the hands of a lucky few." This arrogation of exclusive care for the welfare of the people is the most distasteful and dishonest feature of Labour's policy.

Mr Lawson, who looked authoritative but tired, though — one must add — completely unemotional, missed two good chances to cut through Labour's case. On unemployment he failed to say that the

MEDIA WATCH

Conservatives would like to see unemployment lower, if only — and this is not the first reason — because it would remove a principle cause of unpopularity. Mr Hattersley's policy however, promised inflation, and in turn, more unemployment.

Then he failed to meet a challenge thrown down by an idealistic young woman who said that she would rather not have had her tax cut by him but seen that money spent on the health service. This was surely an opportunity for him to give her a lesson in economics, and point out that tax cuts were likely to generate wealth which make more money available for the purpose she desired.

But perhaps Mr Lawson felt he could leave it to Mr Hattersley himself to undermine Labour's case, which he obligingly did in one sentence: "All that we propose to do will be impossible if we let inflation get out of hand." A more aggressive politician than Mr Lawson would have seized on that as a vindication of the Tories' record.

But Mr Hattersley was in full flow by now, calling for "the re-establishment of consensus in this country". His enthusiasm for consensus did not fit easily with his repudiations of coalition government, though his performance did justify Mr Jenkins's observation that "when I look round the field, my enthusiasm for coalescing with them is not all that great".

But there was too much about hung Parliaments, and too little serious economic argument which we might have expected from chancellors of the exchequer, past, present and aspiring.

Fowler Labour overha

Mix of win

Wakehan

Slugging it

ELECTION 87 X

Fowler attacks Labour's 'hidden' overhaul of tax

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

The Conservatives, sensing a chink in Labour's armour, yesterday stepped up their attacks on its plans for a fundamental overhaul of the tax and benefits system.

The latest disclosures about the scheme lent weight to the charge that Labour had confronted the electorate with an "iceberg manifesto".

"The public will rightly be shocked that Labour has gone to the country with a major tax plan affecting the vast majority of married couples — and deliberately left it out of its manifesto."

Describing the Opposition's handling of its proposed abolition of the married man's allowance as a "fraud on married couples", Mr Fowler accused it of employing "adman" tactics, showing contempt for the electorate.

At the same time, Labour launched a damage-limitation exercise with a statement from Mr Bryan Gould, its campaign coordinator.

He said the purpose of the reform would be to ensure that there is "no significant group" whose tax burden would rise,

other than the richest 5 per cent of taxpayers.

"It is not our intention to raise the tax burden on those earning less than £500 a week as a result of tax reforms such as independent taxation, restructuring of national insurance, a reduced income tax band or higher child benefit."

Earlier, at the morning press conference in London, Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, who on Thursday spoke of a higher burden on families earning in excess of £15,000 a year, appeared further to muddy the waters.

While denying that the abolition of the married man's allowance would begin to bite until "the back end of the £20,000s", he said that raising the NI ceiling would mean higher payments for people earning above £15,000.

Mr Roy Hattersley, speaking in Cheshire, dismissed the £15,000 figure as a press invention and said there would be "no significant losers" under the plan.

"There are all sorts of ways to skin a cat. We will do it in a way that encourages thrift and work and distributes money more sensibly."

Mr Fowler insisted that Labour's plans would hit married taxpayers without dependent children, particularly young couples and pensioners, a group that Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, says totals 12 million.

According to the Tories, that is because Labour's scheme does not include any compensatory benefit or relief for the loss of the married man's allowance.

Yesterday, Mr Kinnock said they would be safeguarded by "the movement in the tax threshold". He also said that the package would not involve any extra cost.

The Tories insist that does not make sense because it would cost £2 billion to increase personal allowances to a level that would insulate childless couples against paying higher taxes.

But Labour sources insisted their scheme was being wilfully misrepresented, saying that the far-reaching reforms would be phased in such a way that low and middle income earners — up to £15,000 certainly — would be winners to a greater or lesser extent.

Too much protection for a man of steel

By Brian James

For the sake of the education of their children people have changed jobs, moved homes, even emigrated.

For the sake of the education of their children people will as readily change their political parties. Thus at election time the man putting the education case for his cause had better be good.

Mr Kenneth Baker is good. In a 15-hour day dogging his footsteps across the Midlands while he covered the entire ground of education policies he proved very good indeed.

Obviously, having just imposed a draconian yet not unjust solution on teachers' pay, launched a revolutionary policy for parental choice and seen schoolmasters launch a guerrilla campaign of walking out on classes — a tactic so ill judged, all Mr Baker has to do about it is point — he has much to be easily good about.

He is so good it is mysterious that his party minions find a need to protect him. Protect him from, first, the publicity he is keen to smother ("can't reveal where he is going next — just have to follow us") and protect him from contact with any hint of hostility.

Do they not see the steel in a man affable enough to be still trying to live down a comrade's remark "I have seen the party's future, and it smirks"? Mr Baker is smooth and lightly oiled. So is an Exoret, and amid the cut-and-thrust he flies straight and true and takes no prisoners.

The aides' quivering paranoia began at Nottingham when the minister was to launch the fourth of his series of city technology colleges. His audience was two dozen media people and party snailers.

"God, that man there", came a whisper. "Who is he? I am sure he is Labour." So what? Did they really feel Mr Baker incapable of dealing with a lone non-believer in his plan to involve industry and commerce in technical training?

More of the same at Northampton. Here he was to address an audience of teachers and parents. They had 300 places, but scarcely 100 people; perhaps the rest had been unable to prove they had blue badges, worn inside or outside their chests. Questions from these "ordinary" parents tended to begin: "When our party is re-elected..."

One man did get up and leave, slamming a door. One headmaster, Mr Derek Jones, did complain loudly about the little praise people like him



Mr Bruinvels listening as Mr Baker made a point at a meeting in Leicester (Photograph: Stephen Markeson).

got for trying to run schools with just 47p a child to spend. He sat swamped by Baker praise for the work done by "such sacrificing non-militant teachers" as he.

But outside the ancient Guildhall the street seethed with cordoned off teachers not admitted to the hall.

Why not let them in? They would have heard the minister outline his policy: a national curriculum to improve basic learning; responsibility for budgets for headmasters; and the choice of parents/governors to withdraw from the state system if they felt threatened by local authority plans, or were confident that they could do a better job with the same financing.

This case Baker backed up with devastating quotes from Lord Donoghue's book giving the views of the Labour Prime Minister, Sir James Callaghan, back in 1977 on the needs for massive change to meet massive parental concern. "I hope no one dares now call me the heir to moderate Labour thinking!"

Mr Baker saw the nonsense

of having the still unconverted excluded. On leaving, he brushed through advisers and strode into the middle of his hecklers. For 10 minutes, fierce, vehement exchanges.

He had a fact, a statistic for every sentence. He would have convinced none, but at least, they told each other as he left, he had listened.

Next stop was a typical comprehensive school. Typical? Gullborough County School has 1,000 pupils and is set amid miles of countryside. "Here is the library/study room", he was told. But see the empty spaces on the bookshelves — we just don't have the money to... a teacher began. Two rosetted aides stepped hurriedly between.

Down a corridor a door opened. "We are the school's AMMA (Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association) committee", a spokesman said.

"Ah, yes, you wanted to see me. Just you and I in this room I think. The rest outside. Except The Times, perhaps..."

The AMMA team put their case: Mr Baker gave them

some answers, and one welcomed an assurance on the timing of new negotiating procedures. "We tried to set up this meeting through the Tory Party. They said: 'No chance, forget it. So we got in touch with the minister direct. We feel better for having got our answer face-to-face.'"

In Leicester, Mr Baker was to have done a city-centre walkabout. He found that it had been cancelled. "His party people thought that after the rough ride Mr Tebbit had in Leicester last week they had better steer clear."

Instead, Mr Baker was given a coach-top tour of the outer suburbs where the danger was greater: they had to station a lookout to warn them about branches skimming the bus tops along the leafy lanes. "God, this is boring", Mr Baker muttered. Then: "I love the rough and tumble."

He was soon to prove it. The final stop was a public meeting in a church hall, the rear of which had been colonized by dozens of young, uniform in mobian haircuts, ear-rings, militant left badges and a vocabulary of bawled slogans.

Mr Kenneth Baker on education is indeed very good. Perhaps too good to be so confined.

At a quiet moment along the way he confided: "Eight days of this have been fun. But I do want to be heard on other things: defence and especially economics. Next week it will be right for me to spread to these."

Right for the Conservative cause or right for Mr Baker? "Right for me, as a politician."

A moment, this, to remember an aside from the party's candidate in Leicester East, Mr Peter Bruinvels. "You do know you are following a future prime minister?"

Mix of winners and losers

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

As the details of Labour's plans on taxation have emerged, so has the issue of tax and benefits become a central one in the election debate.

On tax and benefits alone, the Conservative manifesto details are brief. The basic rate of income tax will be reduced to 25p in the pound "as soon as we prudently can", and there is a vague commitment to "continue the process of tax reform".

As the campaign has progressed so the prospects of any future income tax cuts being financed by a big extension of value-added tax have diminished. The Prime Minister has ruled out VAT on food, children's clothing and on gas and electricity bills.

The Fowler social security

ISSUES

TAXATION

ISSUES

reforms, with the new family credit and the family and child premiums as income support, will be implemented.

Labour's tax plans, as they have emerged during the campaign, include the reversal of the 2p cut in income tax announced in the last Budget, the clawing back of the income tax cuts given to those on the top 5 per cent of incomes, the introduction of a wealth tax to apply to "the richest 1 per cent of the population," the removal of the upper earnings limit of £295 a week employees' national insurance contributions, and the abolition of the married man's tax allowance.

In return, Labour pledges to raise the single pension by £5 and the married pension by £8 a week, provide pensioners and others on low incomes with a £5-a-week winter premium for fuel bills, increase child benefit by £3 a week and the allowance for the first child to £7.36 a week, increase one-parent family benefit by £2.20 a week, and to restore and increase the maternity and death grants.

The Alliance has yet another variation on the tax and benefit theme. It would not reverse the last 2p cut in income tax but it would freeze the married man's allowance

ISSUES

TAXATION

ISSUES

in the long-term aim is to integrate the tax and social security systems. In the short term, the Alliance would preserve housing benefit, increase the single pension by £2.50 a week and the married pension by £3.65.

Wakeham's lessons for the teachers

By Alan Hamilton

Voters have a curious mix of preoccupations in the remotest corners of the Essex marshes: schools, Northern Ireland and the birch. Mr John Wakeham, the Government Chief Whip, addressing a round of village hall meetings in his South Colchester and Maldon constituency, carries them all with the soft-spoken patience of a benign school master.

A vast and unkempt woman, who announced herself in the audience at Tollesbury village hall as a teacher, declares that the morale of her profession has never been lower despite their recent pay rise.

Her school had not been decorated for 13 years, and 14 children shared one textbook. It was not pay but the imposition of a contract that had brought teachers to that party pass, and what were the Tories going to do about it?

Wakeham peers over gold half moons and raises his voice by the merest half-decibel: "The teaching profession has got to conduct itself with care. I have met a lot of people in this constituency who are pretty disgusted with the teachers taking industrial action for their own ends."

He does not accept the picture she paints of teachers' morale. It is his understanding that the teaching unions themselves insisted on a contract, and, besides, the battle going on among different unions has made it difficult for the Government to reach any kind of agreement with them.

Another teacher wants to know why a local grammar school got more money to prepare for the new GCSE examinations than did the neighbouring comprehensive. That stumps Mr Wakeham, but he promises to find out.

Down the lanes at Peldon village hall he is invited to explain Tory education policy, and says that it is all about raising standards through a core curriculum, wider parental choice of schools, and

enabling schools to become independent of the local authority if they wish. To a questioner worried about the last issue, he states that there is no possibility of those independent schools charging fees or setting entrance exams.

But there are probably only half a dozen education authorities in the country which are so bad that parents will want schools to become independent. "I don't think Essex is one of them." Well, which ones were the baddies? "I was thinking of the Brents and Harrogateys," Mr Wakeham says. The benign school master clearly does not believe that homosexuality should be taught as though it were as normal as calculus.

But, pondering another questioner, if Brent schools can get a grant from central government, would not the likes of Eton argue that they should get a grant too? Not at all, Mr Wakeham says. The Government had no control at all over that sort of independent school.

Nor, he might have added but did not, does the Government have much control over the elected politicians of Northern Ireland. In the village hall at Tollesbury D'Arcy, a questioner wants to know why the Tories are not putting up candidates in the 17 Ulster seats.

Mr Wakeham extols the Anglo-Irish agreement, which is not really what the questioner wants, but he finally declares: "I would like the present parties in Northern Ireland to participate more fully in the House of Commons."

At his next stop Ireland comes up again. "What are you going to do about the Anglo-Irish agreement? It hasn't helped the situation in Northern Ireland." Faced with such a direct inquiry, Mr Wakeham is not on strong ground. "It's too early to say whether it has achieved anything, although cooperation between police forces on either side of the border has been greatly strengthened. I

cannot give you an optimistic forecast, but it has not failed yet."

Between engagements Mr Wakeham and his wife Alison, a former private secretary to Mrs Thatcher, dive into a pub for hurried refreshment. Mr Wakeham privately revels in the fact that the threat of a nuclear waste dump at Bradwell, smack in the heart of his constituency, has magically vanished, thus doing his 12,000 majority no harm.

Back in the hall an elderly gentleman is on his feet demanding the return of the birch "to deter some of these yobs". He is presumably referring to hooligans who terrorize decent citizens in the street and not to the nuclear waste executive.

"One is sometimes tempted to think that is a solution, but I don't think so," says Mr Wakeham. It has been a rag-bag of a campaign evening, but at least we know the school master is sufficiently benign to be against corporal punishment.

Slugging it out for the best of three rounds

Outside the Tip Top Discount store in Darlington's Queen Street shopping centre posters, clipboard at the ready, were eyeing passers-by for those who fitted into their required target group.

The lady from Gallop was not having the best of days. "People here don't seem interested. They keep saying: 'Oh, no, not another poll!'"

The lack of interest may have been more a comment on the number of polls littering this election than on politics in general or the local campaign in particular, being vigorously fought by all three parties.

Of the two people who answered her questions, both had voted Labour at the last election but planned to go over to the Conservatives this time, citing defence as the reason. It was encouraging news for Mr Michael Fallon, the outgoing Conservative MP fighting to retain one of only five seats in the North East held by the Tories in the last Parliament.

Mr Fallon is acknowledged as a good constituency MP, destined for promotion from the back benches if he wins again, and a man with a shrewd eye for keeping his public profile high with regu-

lar stories on the front page of his local newspaper.

If Thatcherism is to make any inroads into the largely depressed North East, it has to hold seats like Darlington. If Labour is to stand any chance of forming the next government, it must win the seat, 45th on its target list. Apart from committed Alliance supporters, most observers say that it will be a straight fight between Mr Fallon and Mr Ossie O'Brien, a moderate Kinnockite.

Both men turned to sporting analogies to describe this contest. Mr O'Brien, a director of Alcohol Concern's Workplace Advisory Service, said: "We have won one each so far and this is the decider. If I win I keep the Lonsdale

Belt." Mr Fallon, a former political researcher on the centre-right of his party, is nursing a majority of 3,438. He lives in a Victorian terrace house facing the local football ground and says of the contest: "This is our Cup Final."

Darlington is a market town that has more in common with its neighbours across the border in North Yorkshire than with those elsewhere in the North East. Unemployment stands at 13.6 per cent, higher than the national average, but lower than elsewhere in the region, and it has escaped the worst ravages of industrial decline.

It has never been dependent for its livelihood on coal or shipbuilding and after the run-down of its railway industry in the 1960s, successfully diversified into modern engineering and expanded its retail and service sector. More than 1,000 of its council houses have been bought by tenants under the Conservative Government.

Employment is proving the major issue, according to both Labour and Conservative workers. Mr Fallon alleges that Labour's non-nuclear policies will jeopardize 3,000 jobs at four factories in the

town with or seeking nuclear-related contracts.

Mr O'Brien disputes this, saying his party's plans, for more coal-fired power stations and for the build-up of conventional forces, will provide new work. Labour would cut unemployment in the town by 2,000 in two years.

Darlington has a history of political swings. Between 1945 and 1951 it was held by Labour, from 1951 to 1964 it was Tory, reverting to Labour from 1964 to 1983 and then went to Mr Fallon.

The two main parties dismiss the Alliance challenge by Mr Arthur Collinge, aged 47, a North Yorkshire county councillor. Some local observers believe that he has run a campaign that has been too low profile.

The Alliance campaign HQ is housed next door to the office of the local Victims Support Scheme. With all the indications of a close race between Labour and Conservative, it may well be that Mr Collinge may need support after June 11, the victim of dashed hope and thwarted ambitions.

Peter Davenport

CONSTITUENCY PROFILE

Darlington

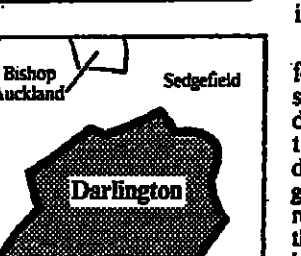
CANDIDATES

M. Fallon (Con) O. O'Brien (Lab) A. Collinge (L/All)

1981 % Own occ. 64.9 1981 % Loc Auth 25.0 1981 % Black/Asian 1.5 1981 % Mid cl. 47.1 1981 % Prof man 13.5 1986 electorate 68,720

1983 General Election: Fallon, M (Con), 22,434; O'Brien, O (Lab), 18,998; Dutton, J (SDP), 1,638; Clark, A (CD), 108; Mps 4,638.

Key: % own occ: proportion owning their home; % Loc Auth: proportion of council housing; % Black/Asian: proportion from New Commonwealth or Pakistan; % Mid cl: proportion of non-manual workers; % Prof man: professions & higher management



SAVINGS OF THE DAY

● The truth is that Mr Kinnock's defence policy is not concerned with preventing war, it is only concerned with fighting a guerrilla war once Britain has been occupied...

● When I heard Dr Owen's comments about sandbags rather than windbags, I thought it was the worst kind of jingoism of the worst kind...

● A Member of Parliament is not there (in the Commons) as a slot machine or a robot...

● Unless you do something about unemployment and housing, people won't care a damn whether the Russians invade. They'll maybe even vote for them...

● People towards the end of the campaign are going to see beneath the gloss...

● Nobody would give a fig for the opinions of a Labour Britain...

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Charles Bremner reports on an academic rift over the Dead Sea Scrolls

Woodrow Wyatt

Who's the real liability?

SPORTING DIARY Simon Barnes

Touring model

John Charles was the footballer who led the way from Britain to Italy, moving from Leeds to Juventus and winning five and the hearts of all Juventus fans...

Nanny state

"A winner's a winner," said my racing snout defensively after Reference Point fulfilled his (and just about everybody else's) prediction by winning the Derby on Wednesday at 6-4.

● Henry Cecil, the best groomed of trainers, seemed to have surpassed himself on Derby Day by changing between races. But all was illusion: it was his identical twin brother David in a different but equally stylish outfit.

Self-service

My call for extraordinary cricketing feats has brought a splendid postbag of wonderful, enviable and shaming facts and figures. Ewan Tulloch tells me he was already well past his peak as a cricketer when he scraped into the Winchester College second XI in 1932.

Blanked out

My remarks the other week on sport and literature prompted the story of Alicki Russell, a former Miss Greece and wife of a British ambassador to Ethiopia. Meeting the Australian wicket keeper Bert Oldfield when he was visiting Ethiopia, she told him, improbably but truthfully, "T.S. Eliot took me to my first cricket match at Lord's and explained everything."

Marksman

Toni Schumacher, the West German goalkeeper, is mainly famous for half-killing a Frenchman in one of the worst fouls in the history of the game. But the man is no fool. He was banned from the game in Germany after his autobiography, Angiffl (First Whistle) made allegations about drug taking by footballers.

Pitchador

A couple of seasons ago, I recall that camels stopped play at a cricket match in Cornwall after they escaped from a nearby circus and started galloping around the boundary. When Swardston in Norfolk played their first match this season, play was halted when a pair of black bulls charged across the ground. A shame, perhaps, that the Derbyshire bowler Ole Mortensen was not playing.

Gospel truth

The Christians In Sport newsletter brings my attention, and indeed, the attention of all sports people, to St Paul's words on sport: "Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown, but we an incorruptible."



Part of the complex jigsaw puzzle

Qumran, the area that yielded a treasure of biblical knowledge

After 2,000 years, a call for action

Scholars from around the world will gather in London on Thursday for an academic showdown. At issue is the fate of the remaining unpublished Dead Sea Scrolls.

These precious manuscripts from biblical times came to light when an Arab goatherd discovered a hidden cave at Qumran (in what was then Palestine under British mandate) in 1947. They included eight complete scrolls, now in the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. All have been discovered and published and have transformed the study of Judaism and early Christianity.

The present controversy surrounds the large quantity of fragments found in later excavations. These are housed in the Rockefeller Museum in what was formerly the Arab sector of Jerusalem. In 1953 an editorial team was appointed to decipher and edit the material, but so far has published only seven out of 25 projected official volumes.

Impatience has turned to anger in the world of biblical scholarship and charges of intrigue and jealousy have begun to fly. Now, for the first time, members of the editorial team have been invited to gather to share their specialist knowledge and will be closely questioned about the reasons for the long delay.

Dr Geza Vermes, reader in Jewish studies at Oxford and author of the standard English translation of the published scrolls, has arranged the symposium under the auspices of the Institute of Jewish Studies, London University. He told me: "Ten years ago I said that unless something drastic was done this would be the academic scandal of the century. There has been no great progress since. We're not looking for scapegoats. What we want is to get on with the job."

Professor James Charlesworth of Princeton says the members of the team are geniuses but lament human failings such as a few of failure that is hampering their wish to publish. He also says they are insufficiently funded.

Other critics say that the original team members guard the scrolls like personal property and at least one - Monsignor Patrick Skehan - took his secrets to the grave.

Facing the critics will be John Strugnell, Professor of Christian Origins at Harvard Divinity School, who joined the team in Jerusalem in 1954 as a 24-year-old Oxford graduate and took over this year as chief editor from Father Pierre Benoit, who died last year at the age of 80. Professor Strugnell's colleague, Frank Cross, Professor of Hebrew and Oriental Languages, will also be present.

Strugnell, now a rumpied 57-year-old, rejects the charges of delay and secrecy. "We were confronted with what amounted to a gigantic jigsaw puzzle and had to piece together thousands of fragments, many from previously unknown texts and some the size of postage stamps," he says. "This was bound to be a slow business." In addition, the project was disrupted after the 1967 Israeli occupation of East Jerusalem. In the circumstances the number of

volumes published so far (he says 15 out of 30) was not bad going, he thought the job should be finished by the end of the century.

Strugnell also dismisses the conspiracy theories associated with John Allegro, a former team member. These suggest that most members of the team, as practising Christians, tried to conceal the scrolls because they undermine Christianity's claim to be a unique religion. Allegro, the only one who was not a devout Christian, has sought support in the scrolls for his theory that Christianity was merely one of a number of breakaway Jewish sects with a messiah-like figure.

Allegro says the team, still dominated by Christians, "are quite happy to hold on to the stuff and not let it see the light of day". Strugnell, he says, is the chief culprit. However, Allegro's academic reputation was largely destroyed by his book, The Sacred Mushroom and the Cross, which argued that Judaism and Christianity were derived from a mushroom-worshipping cult. Strugnell is scathing in his reply and challenges Allegro to provide a single example of concealment.

Vermes also rejects Allegro's theories and considers that the delay lies rather in lack of management. The eight-man team was selected in 1953 by Father Roland

de Vaux, who had led the excavation. From the beginning, said Vermes, there was no corporate authority in charge. As it turned out it was a mistake to entrust such important documents to a small team without supervision.

Vermes is clear what should happen now. First an international academic governing body should be set up with authority to oversee the research and make appointments. Secondly, the team should issue a full catalogue of the unpublished documents giving a brief description of what they are. Without this scholars have only the vaguest idea of what is to come. Thirdly, the team must be persuaded to adopt a more practical editorial method. At present they are aiming to publish the ultimate, perfect edition of each set of fragments. Instead they should concentrate on producing a transcription with basic commentary and leave the detailed work to other scholars.

The Israeli Department of Antiquities now has jurisdiction over the project and two eminent Israeli scholars have joined the team. Israeli officials tried to impose a deadline on Professor Strugnell when he inherited the leadership this year, but he persuaded them to accept 10 to 15 years. They have yet to approve his appointment and there are suggestions they may want faster action.

Thirty-four years ago the team were young and enthusiastic, but no doubt gradually their original enthusiasm has dissipated under pressure of daily life and academic careers. Naturally it is hard to take away people's work after such a long time but it would be open to the Israelis to issue an ultimatum. That the project should be completed within five years or so, after which date it would be handed over to others.

Yes, there is a Thatcher factor. It is exploited by Labour and the Alliance, but not by the Tories. The latter have behaved as though they thought the charges that she is uncaring, arrogant and bossy were damaging. Mr Kinnock has operated a smiling personality cult to some effect while those who run the Tory campaign have seemed anxious to ration Mrs Thatcher's TV appearances for fear of upsetting floating voters.

That showed a miserable misunderstanding of how people feel. Thursday's Gallup poll, although less good for the Tories, nevertheless had 44 per cent thinking Mrs Thatcher best as prime minister against 29 per cent for Mr Kinnock. That is the Thatcher factor. The Tories should be running it non-stop, getting her on television as much as they can, not wandering round nearly empty fields and shaking hands in shopping precincts surrounded by security guards.

Mrs Thatcher is the Tory success story. There may be many who say, sometimes just to show off, that they do not like her but there are few who do not respect and admire her. They know she is a strong leader and that it is a rough world in which weak leaders like Mr Kinnock crumble. His response to the miners' strike was to support it until it was over and then too late to criticize Scargill for not holding the strike ballot his union rules required.

Kinnock's response to extremists in the Labour Party was to engineer the expulsion, against much resistance from his national executive, of a handful of Liverpool Militants. The rest he feebly suffers and submits to however bizarre their opinions, so long as they do not break Party rules by creating separate organizations. His response to the Wapping dispute was to say on the day it ended that Labour would never again allow an employer to take out an injunction or get damages against a union.

His response to Russia is that of the Scandinavian politician standing for election who said his defence policy was to have a telephone answering machine repeating in Russian "We surrender". That is the Kinnock factor. If it succeeds it will establish that the British really do want to settle for being a third-rate power and resent being disturbed in their senile slumbers. Mrs Thatcher's achievements would vanish and her aim of resurrecting Britain, only part performed so far, would be a memory.

In 1979 Britain was still repaying loans to the IMF incurred by the defeatist Labour governments. Our net overseas assets were \$5 billion. Now Britain has net overseas assets of around \$140

billion: first in the world bar Japan. Net returns on these already accumulating investments are already around £3 billion a year, a tremendous help with our balance of payments. Labour opposes overseas investments and would forcibly repatriate much of them to invest in government-sponsored schemes and industries like the hopeless Inmos, Nexos, and De Lorean ventures.

Before Mrs Thatcher there always were 3 million unemployed, these men doing the work of two. Mrs Thatcher has revitalized public and private industry. The output of those at work is growing faster per head than any other country in the Western world; this is bound to continue the downward trend of unemployment at 25,000 a month; just on a factual million in three years against the unlikely promises of her opponents.

Mrs Thatcher has removed the curse of inflation. Labour concedes its plans would mean at least a 7 per cent inflation rate but claims it would only be temporary, which is hardly the experience of the last Labour government.

The sole purpose of Labour repelling the union reforms much liked by union members is to destroy them. Labour declares that the new independent tribunal to be set up with the TUC would have no power to go to the courts to enforce the claims of aggrieved members, who also would be denied access to the courts except on a point of law. Mrs Thatcher has so changed the nature of Britain that Labour has kept the union leaders out of sight during the campaign, yet Labour's policy is to concede everything these mostly unrepresentative union leaders ask for.

In whichever area you look Mrs Thatcher is strong and Mr Kinnock, who has made his personality the main issue of the election, weak. Mrs Thatcher is the one who dislikes the grind of examining the facts. Mrs Thatcher is the leader the whole world listens to with respect. Who would listen to Mr Kinnock who advertises himself as an ill-informed pushover? Mrs Thatcher looks forward with new ideas on education, housing and strengthening the NHS and social services from growing prosperity. Mr Kinnock looks backwards nostalgically to the days of high-tax Labour governments - directing and nationalizing industry (for which he has a mandate in his manifesto and policy documents while calling it social ownership).

If the British buy that because their new well-being - betting shop turnover on Derby Day was 22.5 per cent up on last year - has stopped them thinking, they will deserve what they get.

Robert Kilroy-Silk

One loss we can ill afford

Is this the end for David Owen? He seems to have admitted as much himself by his comment in Kings Lynn on Tuesday that it was now or never for the Alliance. It sounds a Freudian slip: now or never for David Owen, more like. Unlike David Steel, he will not be prepared to tuck up and lead a small, ineffectual band of MPs in the next parliament. He would certainly find it difficult to stomach at close quarters a Kinnock-led government. So he'll up stumps and away.

That will be sad. Whatever views we may have about the man and his party there can be no doubt about the important contribution he has made to the present quality of political life. Unlike Labour and the Conservatives, he has been determined to debate the issues in a calm and rational manner, never indulging in screaming rhetoric or stooping to character assassination and personal abuse. At times he has been a little too detached and probably needed the prod of the interviewer on Election Call to jolt him into life and passion. But make no mistake, the passion is there. And it's real.

His more considered approach to the issues is preferable by far to the histrionics, the posturing, the play-acting, the wild and emotional language, the glib phrases and fist-punched salutes of the Nuremberg-style rallies of the other two parties. While the slick packaging and ticket-only gatherings of Neil Kinnock and Mrs Thatcher have deliberately contrived to distance them from the public and any possibility of conflict, Owen and Steel have gone out of their way to make themselves directly accessible to the voters, have accepted cross-examination and have debated, good-humouredly, with hecklers. The latter have been violently ejected from the Labour and Tory gatherings.

But Owen is not afraid of the truth. He speaks it even when it could be to his disadvantage. If nothing else, he has distinguished himself in his campaign by not telling lies, by not manufacturing or manipulating the facts or distorting the evidence. Time and again he has met the issues head on - as, for instance, in confessing, unnecessarily, that forced to choose in a hung parliament he would support Mrs Thatcher rather than Neil Kinnock.

This approach gives him credibility and authority and means that he is not stumped for an answer to a perfectly simple question, as was John Smith when confronted by the "corporal" on unilateralism, or found practising evasion like Giles Radice on Labour's plans for private schools and Mrs Thatcher on the future of state education. He certainly has not been caught sitting mute, sullen and embarrassed at a press conference while a party colleague has committed him to everything he does not believe in, as happened to Smith, Hattersley and McDonnell at the Kinnock press conference on defence.

But perhaps most refreshing and encouraging of all is that he has not found it necessary to insist that he is always right and the Tory and Labour leaders always wrong, that his party's policies are ethically correct and that whatever the other parties propose must, almost by definition, be condemned as evil. That attitude, so morally depressing, is a dead end on all progress in Britain. Yet only the Alliance disavows it. Indeed, Owen has been anxious to give credit where it is due - to aspects of Mrs Thatcher's foreign policy and trade union legislation and Neil Kinnock's sincerity. Neither has reciprocated.

These are unusual and attractive qualities in a British politician. They co-exist, let it be acknowledged, with an arrogance, an impatience with fools and an intellectual superiority that have all been well documented, and reviled, but which I like. I can certainly testify that they were important in a minister of health from whom I obtained more resources for heart patients, the mentally disordered and disadvantaged and delinquent children. I would never have got them from the usual run of cyphers and time-servers.

David Owen has Mrs Thatcher's political strength, Neil Kinnock's compassion, the unbridled ruthlessness of both, and the easy ability, possessed by neither, to talk to people from all classes. Whether these qualities are sufficient to ensure him a positive role in the future government of the country we shall soon find out. It would be a tragedy, by anyone's standards, if the British people have no place for them. The author was a Labour MP, 1974-86.

Abrasiveness abroad

When Mrs Thatcher came to office, she had no great record or reputation abroad. Her priorities, including the vexed question of Britain's budget contribution to the European Community, were essentially domestic.

Eight years later, as the Western world's longest serving leader, she is the best known British prime minister since Churchill, the most influential voice in Western Europe, the statesman commanding the most respect and attention in both Moscow and Washington. In this she has been well, if quietly, assisted by Sir Geoffrey Howe, who has made up for her lack of real understanding of foreigners' attitudes. Foreign policy, an essential strand of her third election campaign, is the area where she is most self-confident and where, she constantly reminds voters, Mr Kinnock is most vulnerable.

Paradoxically, she has reached this position at the top table by her very contempt for the traditional practice of diplomacy, for the compromises and cant of international negotiation. She still detests Euro-rhetoric, distrusts European - indeed any - bureaucracy, is impatient with bumbling incompetents, bristles at any attempt to patronize her or ignore her arguments. Abroad, she is what she is at home: decisive, blunt, overbearing to the point of arrogance, dogged in her insistence that Britain's interests be taken into account.

At times this has made her intensely unpopular. She has angered, exasperated and perplexed most of those who have dealt with her. Few foreign statesmen, except perhaps Ronald Reagan, have any affection for her. But without doubt she has won the respect of the world. From Washington to Moscow, Brussels to Peking, there are few who would welcome her departure on June 11.

Mrs Thatcher's emergence on the world scene has been gradual. In 1979, anxious to establish her authority at home and pick the ministers she could trust, she delegated virtually the whole field of foreign affairs to Lord Carrington. Where she did take a personal interest, the result was almost disastrous: the bruising confrontation with Europe over the British budget contribution produced tension and hostility that soured relations with France, and Germany and spilled over into other fields.

But it was that protracted battle that laid out the essential elements of her approach to foreign policy and taught her fellow Europeans a lesson that others were to learn. Mrs Thatcher, a newcomer, was patronized as a woman and as the leader of a declining, strike-bound nation by President Giscard d'Estaing of France and Chancellor Schmidt of West Germany. They did not take her seriously, and paid dearly for their mistake. The lesson was more dramatically demonstrated to the rest of the world three years later in the Falklands war. With Lord Carrington's depart-



Michael Binyon shows how world leaders have come to admire Mrs Thatcher - but with no cause to love her.

ure, she took personal charge of foreign policy. Her new aura of victor transformed foreign criticism of stubbornness, inflexibility and nationalism into admiration for persistence, principle and patriotism.

But her approach still makes many uncomfortable. She will not back a policy simply because it makes Britain look good, or wins points in the Third World. She will not mask her convictions with wessel words to disguise opposition or save face.

The results have been different in different parts of the world. In Europe, where she is best known, there is increasing recognition in retrospect that she has often been right on issues where she once stood isolated: on terrorism, the EEC agricultural policy and budget. She is respected for her intellect and incisiveness. Other EEC leaders know that she is still not a convinced European, still has little time for the lofty goals of European unity. But they have found her, and hence Britain, persuasively pragmatic.

Her gradually warming Europeanism stems from recognition that only as a member of the Community can Britain prosper and exert influence. Her bedrock pro-American stance may still be viewed with suspicion, but the EEC now trusts her to voice its concerns to Washington in a language the Americans understand. But it is in Europe that her

abrasiveness serves her least well. Such is her reputation for combativeness that European leaders, especially the newly elected, now need to demonstrate to public opinion that they can, in the words of one close observer, "go three rounds in the ring with her and still come out on their feet." Her style is also intimidating to some European. Chancellor Kohl, for one, is still distinctly uneasy in her company. The lack of personal rapport is one reason why final agreement on the budget issue took so long. This is not the case in America. There, Mrs Thatcher is regarded with a reverence and enthusiasm that borders on caricature. She has invested much in the relationship and it has paid off. She is popular because she is seen as having given unstinting public support - whatever the withering private criticism - to President Reagan at a time when America has been bitter about what it sees as a lack of support from its Nato allies. She has never tried to lecture President Reagan in the way Chancellor Schmidt did, and has saved her reservoir of good will for those issues she considers vital to British interests: the Camp David principles on strategic defence, the extradition treaty or the post-Reykjavik negotiating position on arms control. She has achieved high visibility, and even Democrats hostile to Reagan appreciate her support. Mr Gorbachev's evident in-

terest in forging a better relationship with her stems from different considerations. Sentiment plays some part. It was, after all, in London where he first achieved real prominence in the West, where he was described as a man Mrs Thatcher "can do business with." A sharp intellect, also admires a similar quality in another. But Moscow has more practical reasons also. In the absence of a direct dialogue with the Americans, the Russians need an interlocutor who is seen to wield influence in Washington. They care little for Kohl and have not got on well with President Mitterrand. And Gorbachev himself won prestige at home by being seen to get on not only decently well with his most cogent ideological opponent but to expose his new policy of glasnost to its sternest test.

But there are areas where the formula has not worked, and where there is less evident interest in seeing her re-elected. The Third World and the Commonwealth are less impressed by her visit to Moscow and influence in Washington than by issues of British aid or sanctions against South Africa, or, as a woman, be a subject of curiosity and interest, but Third World minds are concentrated on their own needs, and attitudes are determined by Britain's response. They see her as too close to Washington, too blind to the reality of diminished British power. In private she is often sympathetic to African leaders or those struggling with poverty. But in public her Britain-first line has not endeared her to them. And when some Commonwealth leaders made the mistake of Schmidt and Giscard in attempting to steamroller her with public opinion over South African sanctions, they too brought out the intransigent in her.

But even where her influence has been more personal, there are dangers ahead if she is re-elected. The first is to become over-confident, the temptation to over-play her hand. She may want to intervene in areas where Britain cannot sustain a world role - in particular, the temptation to play the honest broker in East-West relations. This would be quickly resented in America, always sensitive to assumptions by Europe that it can deal better than Washington with Moscow.

Another is to play the role of elder statesman at the expense of domestic politics. There is no doubt that more and more issues are gripping her imagination. Britain is just about to take a more vigorous lead, for example, in the Middle East. But as one senior politician remarked, "This country is only, in the end, as strong as its economy." Most of the world assumes it will be dealing with Mrs Thatcher for at least another four years. It is perhaps a measure of her achievement that his leaders contemplate the return of an awkward, assertive, and dominating colleague at the top table if not with tranquility, at least with satisfaction and relief.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 5: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the Riding for the Disabled Association, this morning attended a Rally for Association Groups at Hedgeley Hall, Powburn, near Alnwick.

wards attended a party at Le Palais, Hammersmith.
Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith and Mr Humphrey Mews were in attendance.

1987 Unbeatable
The British Diabetic Association's "Unbeatable" will take place at Chiswick House, Burlington Lane, London, W4, on Thursday June 25.

Royal Society of Chemistry
The Royal Society of Chemistry has awarded the 1986-87 Chatterton Grammar School, Alton, Hampshire, the title of "School of the Year".

Forthcoming marriages

The Viscount de Vesci and Miss S.M. de Breyff
The engagement is announced between the Viscount de Vesci, of Abbey Leix, Ireland, and Sita Maria, daughter of Baron de Breyff, of Castlebar, Co. Kerry, Ireland.

The election parable of the poor at our door

The battle for control of the agenda of the election campaign is ruthless. Every weapon is employed: ridiculing opponents, playing on fears of an enemy and of an unknown future and claiming the ground of morality.

Service dinners

The Royal Norfolk Regiment Major-General Sir David Thorne presided at the annual dinner of the Royal Norfolk Regiment Officers' Dinner Club held last night at the Norfolk Club, Norwich.

Marriages

Marquess Conyngham and Miss A. Agnew
A service of blessing following the marriage between Marquess Conyngham and Annabel Agnew will take place at St George's, Hanover Square, London, W1, on September 25.

Luncheons

Gordon, Dadds & Co
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoresse, accompanied by the Sheriff and their ladies, were entertained at dinner at the Mansion House last night by Mr Martin Harper, Master of the Feltmakers' Company, and Mrs Harper, the Warden and their ladies.

OBITUARY MR E. G. H. KEMPSON

Mr E. G. H. Kempson died on May 28, at the age of 84. His stewardship of the Marlborough College Climbing Club in the 1920s and 1930s produced a generation of outstanding mountaineers.

LT-GEN WILLIAM HARRISON

Lieutenant-General William K. Harrison, the American Army officer who led the United Nations negotiating team at the Korean War Armistice talks, died in Springfield, Pennsylvania, on May 25. He was 91.

MR CHARLES DREW

Mr Charles Drew, LVO, who died on May 31, at the age of 70, served for many years as a thoracic surgeon at Westminster Hospital, where he did important work on low temperature techniques of cardiac surgery.

MR HALVOR WILLIAM-OLSSON

Halvor William-Olsson, who died on May 18, was for many years a leading member of the BBC Swedish section and of the Anglo-Swedish community in London.

MR DAN ESCOTT

Dan Escott, a distinguished heraldic illustrator, died of cancer in Sydney, on May 7. He was 58.

Royal College of Physicians of London

Among the new Fellows admitted by the president, Sir Raymond Hoffenberg, to the Royal College of Physicians of London were the following:

Bond Street Association

The Lord Mayor of Westminster was present on Tuesday at St George's Church, Hanover Square, London, when the Association of Bond Street Ambulance London (Prince of Wales's District) presented to the Ambulance London (Prince of Wales's District) an ambulance to commemorate the centenary of the formation of the Association of Bond Street Ambulance. The vehicles were dedicated by the Rev William Atkins and received by Mr John Gerard. After the ceremony a reception was held at the Westbury Hotel.



The Princess of Wales, in gown and mortarboard and holding a scroll, after being made an honorary fellow of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists yesterday.

Marriages

Marquess Conyngham and Miss A. Agnew
A service of blessing following the marriage between Marquess Conyngham and Annabel Agnew will take place at St George's, Hanover Square, London, W1, on September 25.

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ITUARY
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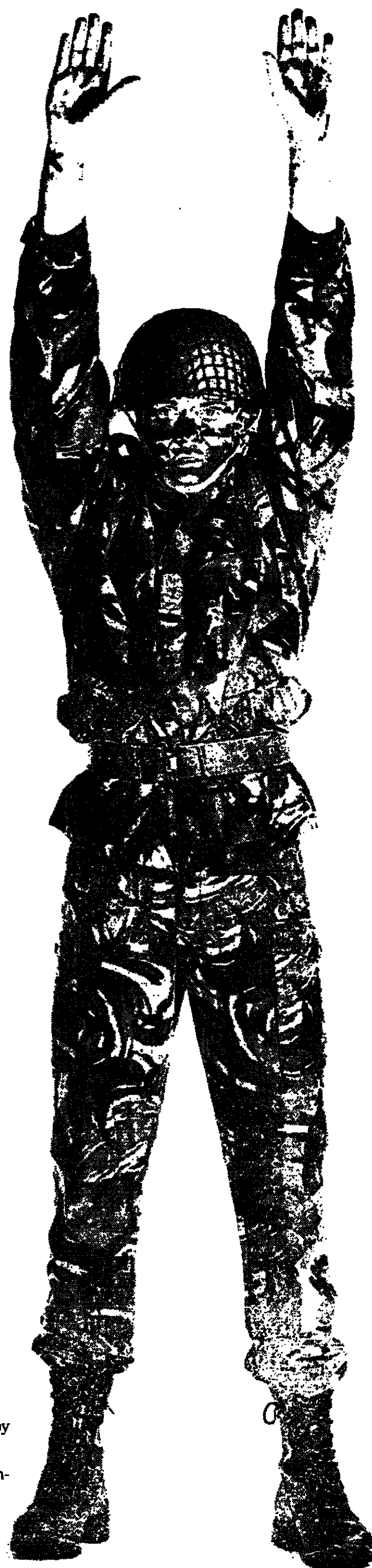
LABOUR'S POLICY ON ARMS.

GEN WILLIAM HAR

MIR CHARLES DR

HAY FOR WILLIAMS

MR DANIS

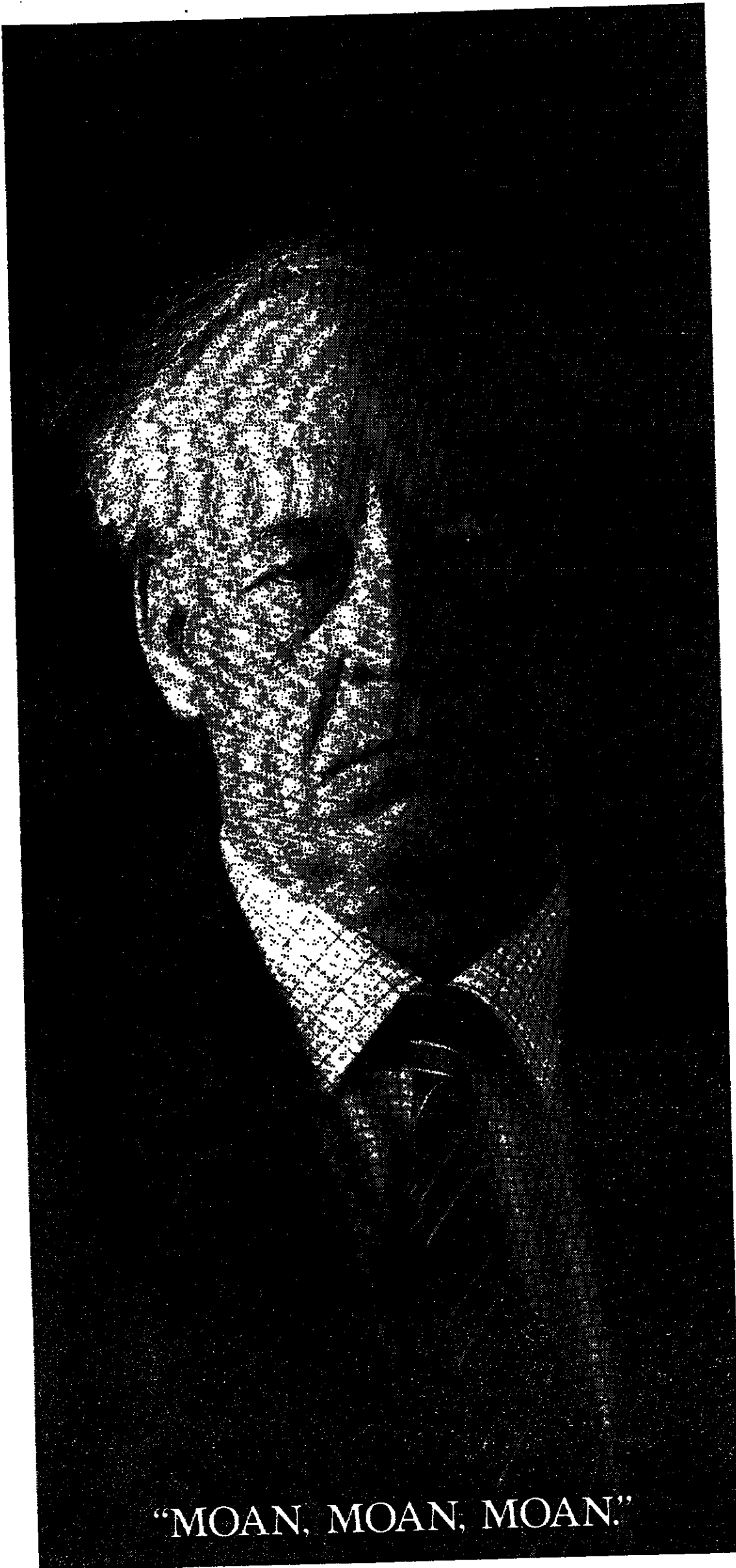


Labour's policy on defence is to leave us with hardly any. They'd scrap Polaris. Abandon Cruise. Cancel Trident. And insist the Americans remove all their nuclear bases from British soil. Without the Soviets having to give up so

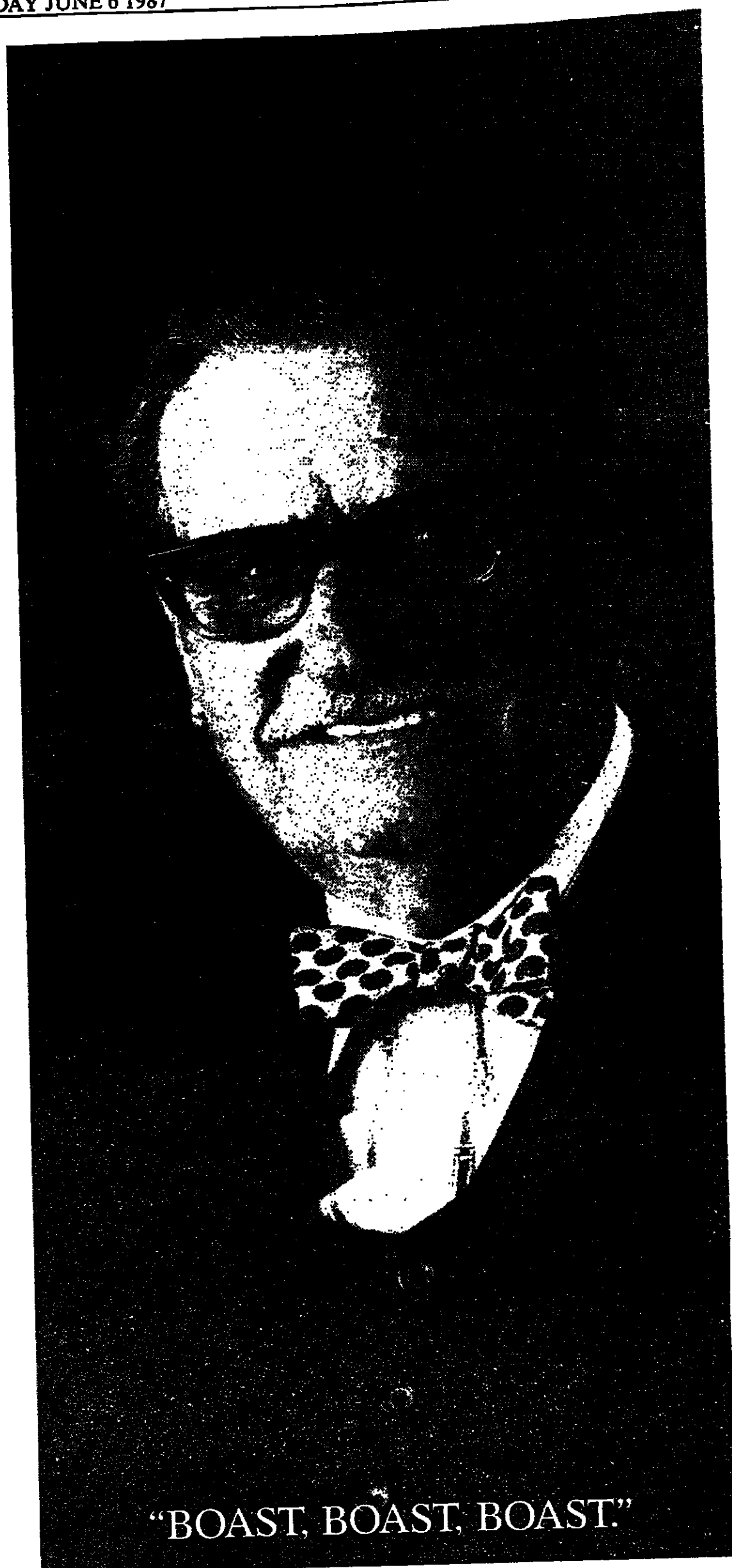
much as one of their terrifying weapons. So what's Labour's answer to any future attack? Last weekend, Mr. Kinnock said it would be to use "the resources that you've got to make any occupation untenable".

In other words, let them occupy Britain first. Fight afterwards. That, Mr. Kinnock, is not just untenable. It's unthinkable.

CONSERVATIVE
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"MOAN, MOAN, MOAN."



"BOAST, BOAST, BOAST."

Any 65-year-old will give you a better case for personal financial planning

"Thanks. I'll have a half if you're buying. Of course, we don't go out much now, can't afford to—the price of things these days. I remember when you could have an evening out for a fiver. Now it'll hardly buy you a round I'll bet — cheers. I know I should have done something about my retirement years ago but somehow I never got round to it. Didn't really see the point and I always put it off. We lived well enough then but who'd have thought it would come to this — still, mustn't grumble."

For a simple approach to personal financial planning, talk to Allied Dunbar. Individually-tailored pensions and savings schemes from the UK's leading provider of individual pension plans. Tried and trusted by over one million people.



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"No, no, my shout old boy. As I was saying, scrimped and saved for years, but now we're doing rather well. Put the lot into this ball bearing factory, in the wife's name of course, and I just give myself loans, d'you see? All handled through this holding company in Panama — old army pal put me onto it, quite legit, but volatile. One sneeze on the Tokyo exchange and poof! I've got a short wave radio in the greenhouse so I can keep a weather ear — Oh thanks, can I have a receipt?"

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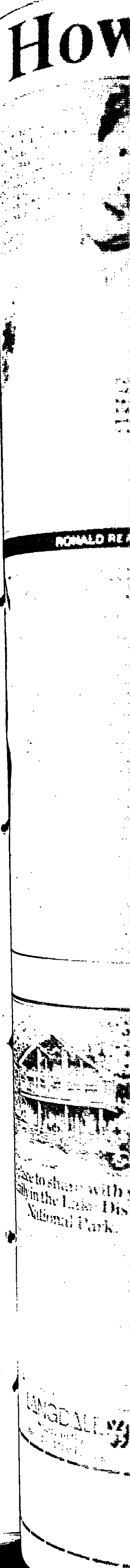
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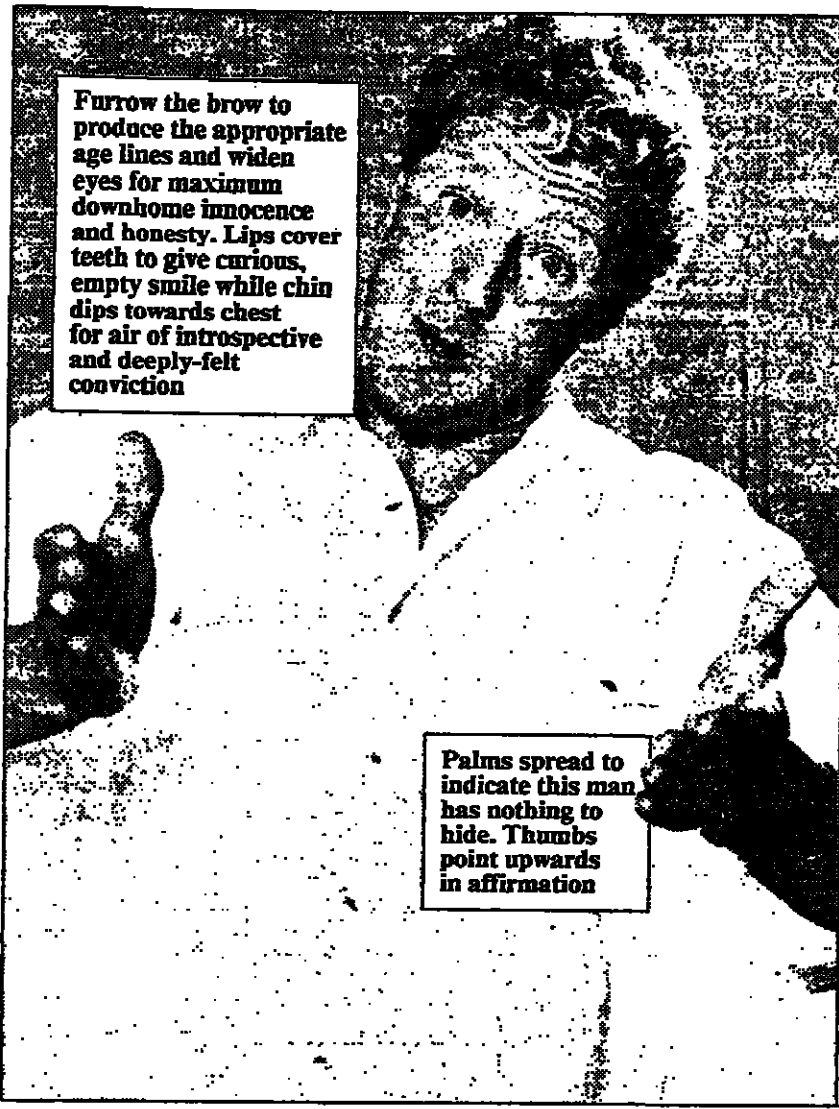
June 6 - 12, 1987

SATURDAY

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE
ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

How to steal a million faces

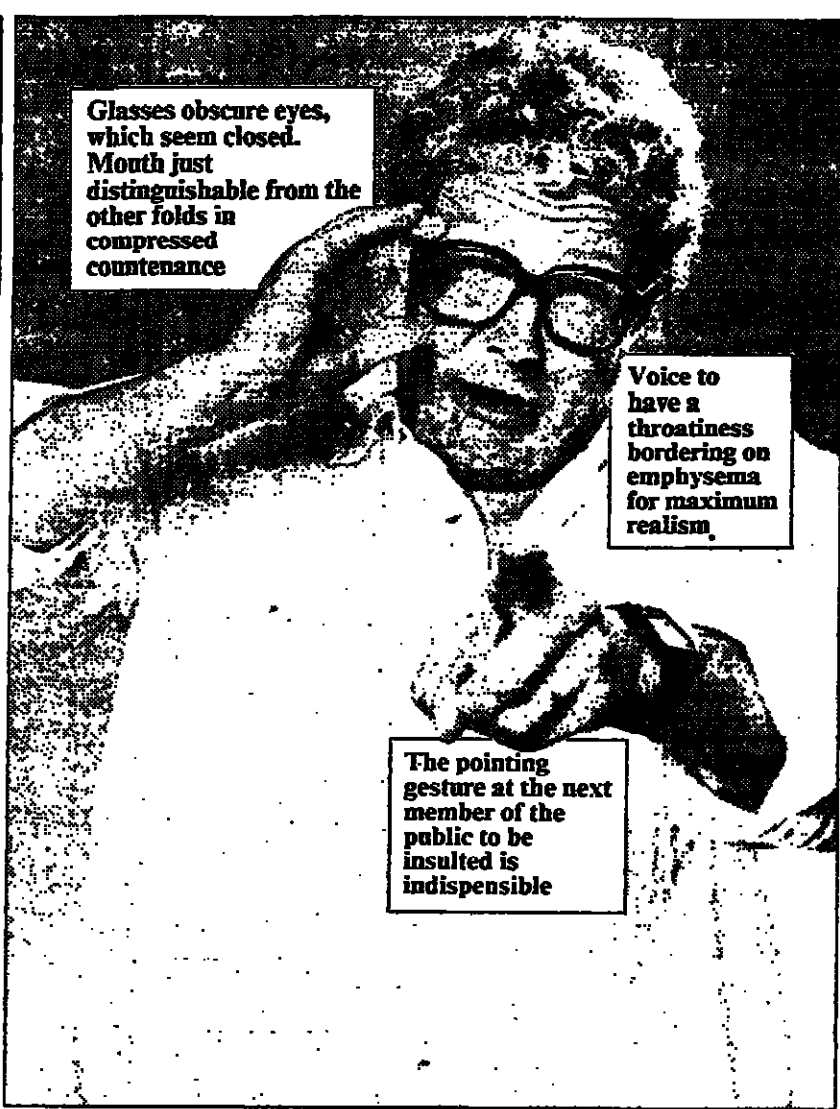
John Rogers



Furrow the brow to produce the appropriate age lines and widen eyes for maximum downhome innocence and honesty. Lips cover teeth to give curious, empty smile while chin dips towards chest for air of introspective and deeply-felt conviction

Palms spread to indicate this man has nothing to hide. Thumbs point upwards in affirmation

RONALD REAGAN



Glasses obscure eyes, which seem closed. Mouth just distinguishable from the other folds in compressed countenance

Voice to have a throatiness bordering on emphysema for maximum realism

The pointing gesture at the next member of the public to be insulted is indispensable

SIR ROBIN DAY



Close eyes and grin for the "smart working man with something to say" look. Tongue licks lips for punctuation during applause

Shoulders are loose, like a man in pub about to deliver punch line

Relaxed pointing gesture aimed at the world rather than at an individual

NEIL KINNOCK

Nothing personal, but Rory Bremner never wants to see or hear Norman Tebbit again. If Tebbit ever made it to the top, Bremner could be in real trouble.

The suspense is heightened by the fact that the clowns are gagged for the moment by a nannyish ruling that keeps political jokes off our television screens for the duration of an election campaign.

But Bremner looks confident. For a man who has to take on other characters he is surprisingly striking in appearance - curly red hair, tall and athletically built. He is 26 and made his name first at the Edinburgh Festival in 1981 and subsequently on the first thrice-weekly *Wogan* show. His *Now Something Else* on BBC2 won the Press Award at Montreux last month.

We met in the shabby grandeur of the Irish Club in Eaton Square where, with Jessica Martin, who provides a handy Carrie and Thatcher, he was rehearsing a stage show they were just about to take on tour. He is astonishingly gifted. In full flight he can flick through half a dozen characters in the space of a minute. The eerie thing is that there seem to be few precise changes in the face, but it is clear even

Bremner is our market leader in the impersonation business and is waiting anxiously for next Thursday's result, which will decide whose ticks, accents and deft he will have to lampoon for the next five years. And a fickle electorate can be disastrous -

While the politicians are on the air, the impressionists are ordered off it. But those whose faces provide their fortune will be anxious to see what changes they must make to their repertoire after the election - none more so than Rory Bremner (above), who talked to Bryan Appleyard about the difficulties

before he speaks whom he has just become.

But Bremner has only taken Yarwood's job - their styles have nothing in common. For when it came to politics, the joke with Yarwood was the impersonation itself. "There was a fairly cuddly Harold Wilson with his 'I think I said this at the Brighton Conference' or his distinctly cosy Denis Healey forever muttering 'Silly Billy' - but all the time the point was simply that it was funny seeing somebody look and sound like a politician."

With Bremner, however, the material counts and much of the affection seems to have gone. He seems consciously to be reducing people by impersonating them. "Complacency," he says in the case of Robert Robinson *Stop the Week* voice, the head swung back and the throat seeming to squeeze the words out - for a moment he also appears to have gone bald - "is the sound that haunts us all." His hair returns as he lapses back to Bremner and cries: "What on earth does that mean?"

But it is his political figures that seem to carry the most fury. It is as if the political polarizations of the Thatcher years have produced a more savage clown. "Well, the real reason I do anything is for a laugh. But it's got to have a point, and I do sometimes

worry about laughing at people in certain circumstances. I don't really want to encourage the tabloid view of the Labour Party. I mean the sort of end-of-the-pier joke about Arthur Scargill is that his hair is like Shredded Wheat - I would never do that."

The result is that Bremner, unlike Yarwood, tends not to have amiable meetings with his victims. He was once doing David Steel in an Edinburgh Theatre. The laughs were louder than usual and he gradually realized the man himself was in the house.

Similarly, on running into Neil Kinnock he instantly lapsed into a Welsh "Bloody Hell!" to which Kinnock replied, in a flawless impression of Bremner's Kinnock: "Bloody Hell!" But however savagely precise he may be, Bremner knows that, deep down, they love it really. "You're nobody till somebody does you," he says - the point being that an impersonation is a sure sign that you have arrived. It means you are familiar enough for the public to pick up on the impressionist's cues.

Bremner took a risk in this area by taking a lot on his Richie Benaud, who is famous but not that famous. This led to people who had never seen Benaud suddenly spotting him and telling Bremner: "He was

Rosser by the time he was 14. He went on to play the Leeds working men's clubs and then saw an interview with Mike Yarwood in which he said his career was over because he couldn't possibly do Thatcher. Nallon took up the challenge. His method is entirely different from that of Bremner. He immerses himself with disturbing intensity in his victim.

He reads everything about her and tries to take on her personality. This is made necessary partly by his stage act, which involves long, improvised performances, and partly by his curious and oddly respectful fascination with the subject.

"She constantly provides new material. I mean there are only three jokes about Kinnock - he's bald, Welsh and he talks too much. But Thatcher is always there with something new. She has this very dry sense of humour that

nobody seems to notice. And I think I was the first person to spot the way she kept saying 'Goodness me!' or 'Good Heavens!' and she actually stumbles over her words rather a lot - I think it's because she is always thinking about the next sentence."

Nallon is the only person he knows who actually videotapes party political broadcasts. But, seriously as he appears to take it all, his summary of his aims is simply to say "Yah-boo-sucks" to Mrs Thatcher or anybody he happens to do. He quotes the Italian playwright Dario Fo in calling himself a "licensed fool."

But until 10pm on Thursday, the licensed fools are gagged. Perhaps in the midst of the present overkill they would have been superfluous anyway. Or perhaps the nanny law-makers were right and they really would have changed our voting patterns by turning us into a nation of don't knowers.

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Full guide to the weekend's TV and radio: page 23

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A short sharp history of satire



Above, a 19th-century milestone: Charles Philippon's drawing of Louis Philippe turning into a pear

Impersonation has its roots in caricature, which began among the Romans and Greeks. It spilled over from their art of the grotesque and exaggerated, in which humans and animals overlapped. In the Middle Ages this moved on to the weird and frequently savage representations on cathedrals and churches. And with the invention of printing, the industry of imitating in order to mock took off.

But political and social caricature came properly of age in the 18th century with Hogarth and, later, Gillray. In France, the 1830s produced the work of Damier, and Charles Philippon's representation of Louis Philippe as a pear, exploiting his fleshy jowls.

The expansion of the press made political figures familiar to a wider audience than the small coterie who had previously been able to see them face to face. Imagery could be more than merely grotesque. It could be anecdotal, fitting familiar figures into absurd situations - Macmillan wore his underpants over a leotard and became Supermac and Low turned the TUC into a carthorse.



Television created new possibilities. Politicians were suddenly in the living room, although for years they were held in squeamish respect and spared by early television impressionists.

Then came Mike Yarwood and Harold Wilson, who seemed made for each other.

Left, 20th-century evolution: Denis Healey as seen by television's *Spitting Image*

Wilson had a fund of mannerisms plus a distinctive accent. Yet while Gerald Scarfe was viciously distorting political figures beyond recognition in newspapers, television's fear of appearing unbalanced restricted it to gentle mockery. Satire in the Sixties changed the climate - and indeed much of it remains a good deal more savage than anything seen today - but it remained cut off from what is known as "light entertainment". A tougher treatment of politics had crept into television, but only on programmes that were vaguely highbrow and therefore had smaller audiences. John Bird's Harold Wilson was the flip side of Yarwood's. Meanwhile mimicry in the written word appeared with John Wells's Denis Thatcher persona in *Private Eye*, and Alan Coren's brilliant Idi Amin column in *Punch*.

With the Thatcher years the mainstream variety acts have taken on at least some of that edge. And *Spitting Image* has brought together the two traditions of caricature - puppets springing from the newspaper cartoon heritage, and sketches from television satire.

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Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL

A sunny side of the heat

For both the young and the young at heart, Bernard Cornwell finds Florida the liveliest and most relaxing of pleasure centres



Florida hardly existed before Henry Flagler. He was the railroad baron who, between the wars, drove a line down Florida's eastern coast, and would have driven it clear across the sea to the casinos in Havana if a hurricane had not stopped him in his tracks. But at least Flagler had opened a path from the swamps at the Georgia border down to the swamps around Miami. God's Waiting Room was born.

Of course there is a pre-Flaglerian history but no one goes to Florida for history, even though St Augustine is proudly touted as America's oldest city. People go to Florida to die. They go there in their thousands, seduced from America's bitter northern winters to the palm-edged promises of the Sunshine State.

It's Disney. It's Sea World and Flipper and sunken treasure and the Everglades and alligator wrestling and year-round golf and bright-sand beaches and coral reefs.

Well, sort of. It's actually a bug-ridden swamp. On that swamp the post-Flaglerians imposed a gridiron of roads, thus creating building lots. Traffic lights were put at just about every corner of the

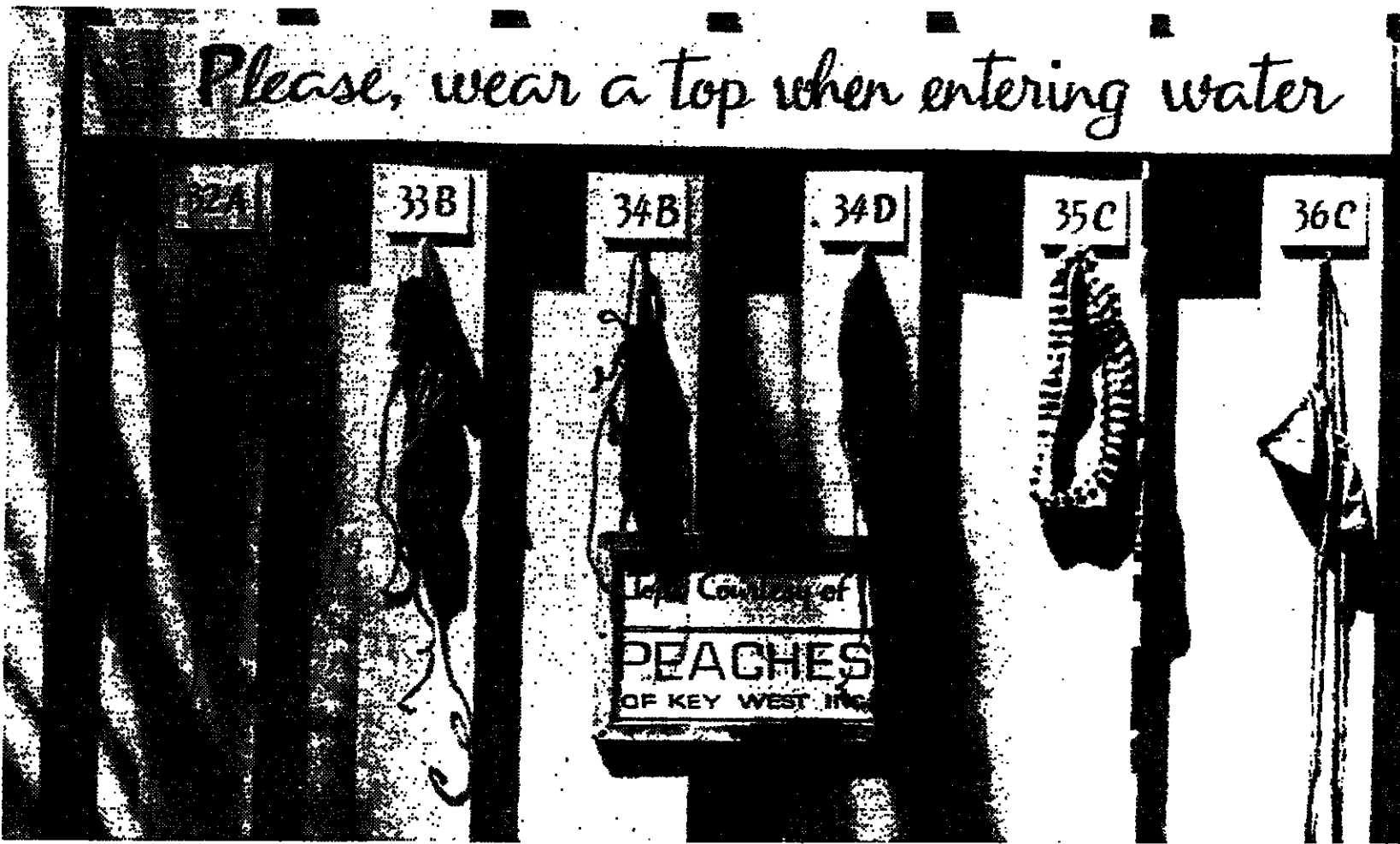
gridiron, thus creating stress. I speak of Miami-opolis.

This is the warmest bit. Florida is filling up from its warm bottom, and no part is more crowded than south Florida's eastern coast — the Gold Coast. Gold Coast is real-estate-speak for the megalopolis that is gridironing north from Miami: 70 miles of condos, retirement communities, shopping malls, industrial parks and traffic lights.

Inland is nothing. One drives across Alligator City (didn't see one) to the mirroring mini-sprawl that is trying to gridiron the west coast. The Gold Coast is where the retirees come: wrinkled sun-seekers who like the dead flat golf-courses and the rock-bottom house prices.

That isn't the Florida we see in the travel agents' windows, which is more likely to be the Florida that Flagler wanted: the playground of the hyper-rich who live in their air-conditioned mansions on the Intra-Coastal Waterway where air-conditioned mega-craft with Star War aerials gleam on private wharfs. No trespassing, of course; there are guys with guns out there and Florida guns can be risky. A Devon visitor was shot for jay-walking on Highway 95 last year.

But most tourists don't get shot.



Showing why Florida is tops with the sun-seekers: self-service with a difference in Key West, once a haunt of pirates and now the most charming part of this southern state

They get sunbaked on the beaches, which are splendidly equipped with sun, sand and surf. The wealthy head for West Palm Beach ("Polo Capital of the World"), the rest to wherever their travel agent sends them. Crudely: Boca Raton and the Palm Beaches are up-market. Fort Lauderdale is acceptable. Miami Beach and the rest iffy.

There are few immediate beach-side attractions but plenty to see within easy driving distance (car-hire is very cheap): the Everglades (swampy capital of the world, alligators, egrets, herons, and airboats), the keys (sport-fishing capital of the world, coral, and sunsets). Miami has art deco, Hispanic flair and vice.

Florida natives mostly speak English but are not necessarily friendly. This is an un-American trait but many Floridians are

immigrants from New York, which explains it. Restaurants are plentiful, salads obligatory and cheap dinners can be had by partaking of an early-bird special. This is a meal, generally served between 5pm and 7pm, offered at half-price for the senior citizens (but all welcome); 17.3 per cent of Floridians are over 65, and most of them seem to be driving in your lane.

But Florida is not exclusively for the old. Three and a half hours drive to the north of the megalopolis is Disney World, a place of which I am unqualified to speak because, having once been driven to its very gates, I refused to enter. But the kids love it and there are people whose dying wish is to see what Disney wrought. Go east from Disney World to Cape Canaveral, which is reckoned to be Florida's best attraction.

There's more. On the west coast, and beautiful, are Sanibel and Captiva Islands — costlier than the east coast resorts but much less crowded. To the south is Key West (gay capital of the world?). Few tourists would care to travel north to the state capital at Tallahassee (redneck capital of the world?). St Augustine (oldest city) is also in the north, but it is a foolish European who visits Florida for 16th-century Spanish architecture.

And it is a foolish visitor who goes out of season. The Florida season is our winter. Then, and only then, is Flaglerland bearable. It is warm. This last winter, while Britain froze, southern Florida had day after day of 80 degrees.

That is Florida's attraction: the northern winter made warm. But beware every other time. Go to

Florida in the summer and you will be wringing wet within seconds. Natives go around in air-conditioned cars from their air-conditioned homes to air-conditioned shopping malls. Some women buy furs to endure the chill in air-conditioned restaurants.

The state empties after Easter as the "snowbirds" return to their northern homes and it is then, when no sensible American will take a holiday in Florida, that airlines offer tempting deals to Europeans.

Yes, it will be warm and the sun will shine, but you are going to a tropical swamp where every breath is glue-sticky and the sweat will pool in your fleshy folds and the afternoon rainstorm brings no relief at all. Only hurricanes can do that, and the Gold Coast has

not had a real killer for a few years and no one knows if all the new hotels and high-rises will stand up to it when it comes.

My wife is a native and likes the place. Her advice is to go in April or November when the worst of the crowds are gone or yet to be. My advice is to go in November. It can still be brutally hot but, if it all depresses you as it does me, there is the consolation of six live hours of American football on TV every Sunday afternoon and another three on Monday night.

You can forget that Florida means "land of flowers" (there really aren't that many) and was so named by its discoverer who, in a fact which I feel ought to be significant but am not sure why, was a Spaniard named Ponce de Leon. He didn't stay but, if you do, have a nice day.

Keys to a colourful past



Key West is quite unlike the rest of Florida: it has charm. Indeed, it's unlike the rest of the United States, to which it is attached only by an ocean-leaping highway that curls around the keys from Miami. The keys, with splendid names like Ramrod and Sugar-Loaf, are a 90-mile chain of coral islands which lie in the hurricane waters south of Florida. At the chain's end is a six-square-mile city built on coral: Key West. Its charm comes from its history and much of that history is ours.

The original settlers were American Loyalists who had fled the rebellious Colonies for the British haven of the Bahamas. At the turn of the 18th century, some of them discerned in Key West an ideal place for wrecking the piracy that thrived until, in the 1820s, the Americans caught up with them by planting the Stars and

Stripes on the island. The Conchies have tolerated the Republic ever since.

Conchies and Couch houses made and make Key West. The word is pronounced Conk, and they don't like to hear you say Couch. The couch, of course, is a shellfish which was the Conchies' staple diet and which they still serve in the city. The settlers built themselves small wooden cabins, the Couch houses, exquisitely made with shipwright techniques that have enabled the old buildings to survive every hurricane.

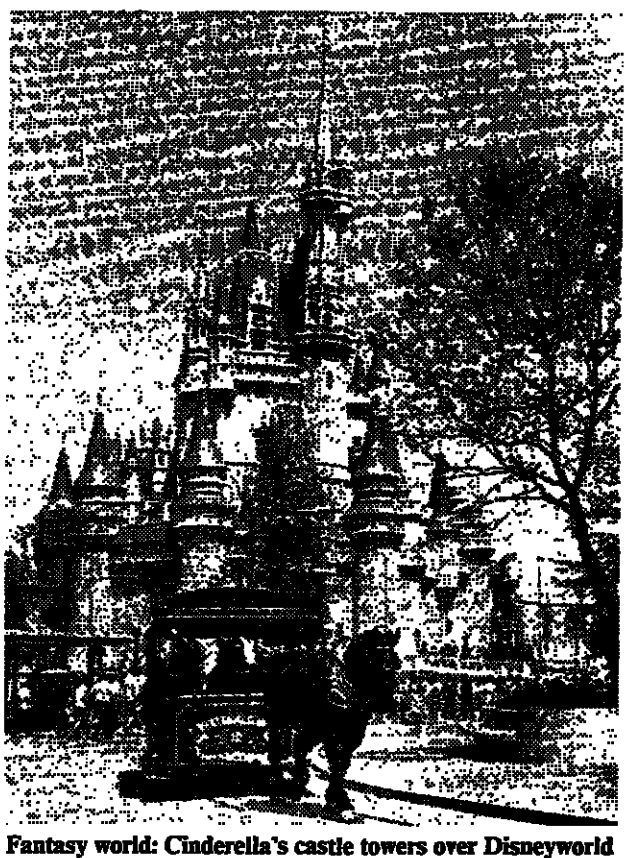
For most of its history the city has been poor and its remoteness kept property prices low, thus making it a writers' colony. Recently it became a gay refuge, which has added greatly to the city's civility. Now it is becoming a fashionable resort, but enough of the old and slightly shabby remains to give it texture.

Key West is a small place. The old town is just an enclave

at the island's western tip and the rest of the city is an undistinguished mix of airport, naval base, and a gridiron of cinder-block houses. Yet the old town demands gentle exploration of its tree-shaded streets, restaurants and bars.

There are some magnificent hotels. I particularly like the Pier House in the old town, and the Casa Marina with its private beach. The prices of these hotels reflect Key West's new fashionable status, but there is plenty of more modestly priced accommodation in private guest houses.

And to do? Many of the old houses are open to viewing. Mel Fisher's dazzling treasures from wrecked Spanish galleons are on display. There are beaches, Caribbean sun, and the sea on every side. Whether your taste is for hunting the big game fish, diving, jet-skiing, sail-boarding, or joining a barquentine charter to the West Indies, Key West offers it all.



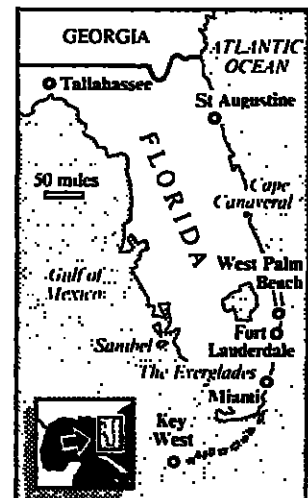
Fantasy world: Cinderella's castle towers over Disneyworld

MIAMI ADVICE, OR HOW TO GET THE MOST FROM FLORIDA

Florida Division of Tourism, Suite 1, 55 Park Lane, London W1 can provide guides and information to readers who write to its offices.

Flights: British Airways (01-897 4000). Daily flights to Miami plus three Concorde flights per week. Apex fares from £389 return. First class £2,594. Three flights a week to Orlando from £269 return. Pan Am (01-409 0688). Daily to Miami from £389 return. Virgin (0293 88222). Five flights a week to Miami from £378 return. Upper Class £1,302. Continental (01-879 5531) also flies to Miami from £378. Piedmont (Freesphone 0800 777333) will be flying from Gatwick to 40 destinations in Florida (via Charlotte, North Carolina) from June 16. Return flights to Florida around £300.

Tour Operators Many tour operators publish Florida-only brochures with a selection of deals to suit a variety of pockets and interests. A typical two-centre, two-week Orlando and Fort Lauderdale holiday with Poundstretcher (0293-519233) taken in July or August costs £219 per adult (children 25 per cent less) inclusive of flights, transfers



and hotel accommodation. Tour operators offering Florida packages include: The America Book, 0345 747474; Speedbird, 01-741 0866; Pan Am, 01-629 8262; American Airplan, 0392 246166; Kuoni Travel, 0306 885044; Transolar Holidays, 051 630 3737; Virgin Holidays, 0293 775511; Intasun Florida, 01-460 3001; Dream Islands of the World, 01-253 2662; FVI Travel

Services, 01-882 0103/3244; Trek America, 0869 38777; Ramon Holidays, Fly-Drive Florida, 01-723 6688; Val Alexander Valair, 01-402 4262; TWA Getaway with Jetaways, 01-637 5444; Jetsave, 0342 312033; The American Dream, 01-470 1181; Costa Line Cruises, 01-637 9961; Sovereign Worldwide, 01-897 1336; Cosmos America, 01-464 3400; Northwest Orient Fly-Drive, USA 01-629 5353; North America Travel Service, 0532 431806; NCL Tour, 01-408 0048; Premier Holidays America, 0223 316495; Project Tourism, 01-318 5835; Scotia Air Holidays, 041 221 0847; Sterling Holidays, 0603 619189; Threshold Travel, 061 236 8783; Caravan Abroad, 073 784 2735; Donald Mackenzie Travel, 041 248 7781. Car Hire Alamo, prebooked through travel agents, from \$99 a week. Avis, prebooked, from \$119. Hotels Pier House, Key West (305 294 9541). Double room from \$85 to \$185 per night. Casa Marina, Key West, bookable through Marriott Central Reservations (01-439 0281).

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Beating passport delays

TRAVEL NEWS

Industrial action by civil servants has led to delays of up to 10 weeks in the issue of new passports, so holidaymakers who have not yet lodged their applications are being advised to obtain a one-year British Visitor's Passport instead.

This can be obtained from Post Offices and is accepted in most European countries outside the eastern bloc and in North Africa, except Morocco, but it is no longer valid for Canada.

Travellers with imminent departure dates whose passport applications are still being processed are being advised to telephone their regional passport office to check whether they have been dispatched.

The Association of British Travel Agents says passport offices are handling applications on the basis of departure-date priority.

In favour of fresh air

Initial passenger reaction to Air UK's experimental no-smoking restriction on flights to the Channel Islands, introduced on May 1, has been highly favourable. Almost 80 per cent of the 1,800 passengers questioned "definitely" agreed with the policy, while a further eight per cent were indifferent and only seven per cent said they would fly with another airline because of the ban.

Safety in Sri Lanka

The Foreign Office is advising travellers that there is no longer any danger in travelling to Sri Lanka, even though there are still pockets of violence. One leading tour operator, Kuoni, has resumed tours to Sri Lanka but is allowing customers who are worried about security to switch to another holiday without having to pay the usual amendment fee.

Low-cost packages to any station in France are being offered by British Rail, Hoverspeed and French Railways until June 25. At

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OUT AND ABOUT

Romance in the stone

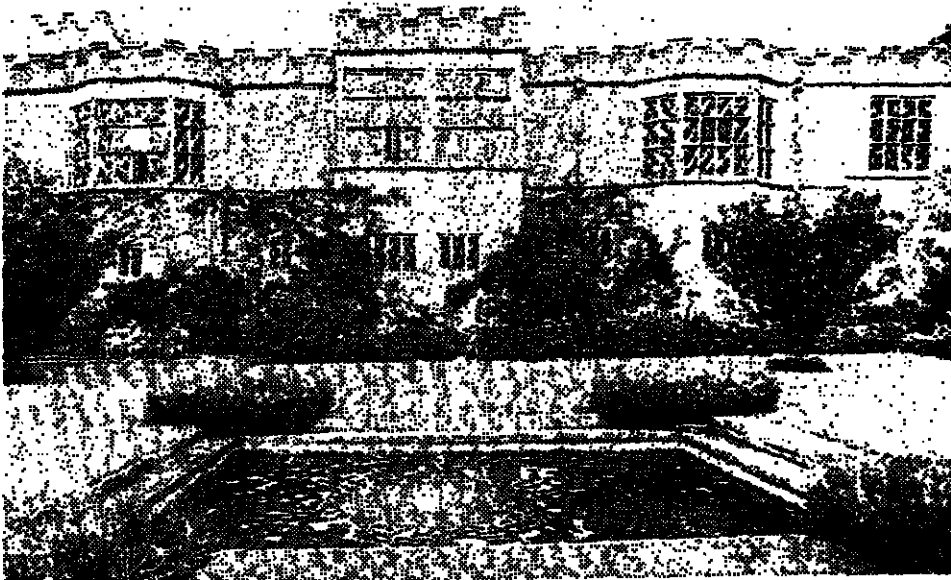
Nigel Andrew steps back in time amid the solid splendour of Haddon Hall

The man standing outside the second-floor window was not about to jump. He was one of the film crew...

Haddon Hall is popular with them, and to see a window of the Long Gallery blocked by the broad back of an assistant gaffer comes as no great surprise...

It is not surprising that Haddon should be popular with film-makers trying to recreate the romance of the Middle Ages. Nowhere could be more spectacularly right, more quintessentially medieval...

Beautifully sited above the River Wye and looking more like a castle than a mere house, Haddon still retains its archaic potency. Thanks to the efforts of the ninth duke earlier in the century, today it is structurally sound, indeed rock-solid. The duke - to whom restoring



Haddon Hall: nowhere could be more spectacularly right, more quintessentially medieval

Haddon was a long labour of love - made all good, and where he could not reassemble the ancient materials, he employed extraordinarily skilful craftsmen using local wood and stone.

The result is that Haddon is as near as you could hope to come to this huge scale to the real medieval McCoy. With

none of the Van Dycks and Reynolds, the Chippendale and Sheraton, the porcelain and lacquerware and silk hangings that have accumulated in every other great house, this is effectively a place where time has stood still since the early 17th century.

Most of the house, in fact, was completed long before then, and only one room - the delightful Long Gallery - shows even Renaissance influence, let alone anything later. For the rest, it is all time-worn stone and wood, heavy beams and panelling silver with age, stairs and corridors worn virtually into U-shapes by the treading of centuries.

ceilings of patterned plaster or heraldically painted, and outside mellow ancient stone, battlemented against the sky.

Everywhere is so sparsely furnished and all is of such solid immobility that there is no need for the hovering guides who so often detract from the enjoyment of a great house. In fact, after being pointed in the right direction, the visitor is left to follow the signs as best he may, wandering about at will, doubling back on himself, strolling about the great flagged courtyard, examining the old chapel - in short, soaking up the atmosphere to his heart's content.

But it is not just the romance of that era that clings to Haddon Hall. It was from this house that Dorothy Vernon famously eloped in 1563 with John Manners - an incident still popular with fans of historical fiction. Indeed, you leave the house by Dorothy Vernon's door and go down Dorothy Vernon's steps into the garden. And there, finally, you discover the other side of Haddon Hall - figuratively as well as literally.

The garden front, with its tall, wide windows, has a soft and dreamy aspect.

As for the gardens themselves, depending in a series of great terraces to the river and the ancient bridge, they are sheer delight. Fragrant with roses and enlivened by a fountain, they are just formal enough to provide the perfect foil both to the rolling countryside beyond and to the great rock-hewn house that, after all these centuries, seems almost a part of it.

Haddon Hall, Bakewell, Derbyshire, is open until the end of September, 10.30-5.00. Closed Mondays. Admission £2.20, child £1.10.

History's proof in the pudding

Haddon Hall is some two miles outside the beautiful little stone-built town of Bakewell where one thing you will not find is a Bakewell Tart: the much tastier Bakewell Pudding is available from the Original Bakewell Pudding Shop (and restaurant). It was supposedly invented, by accident, in the kitchens of the Rutland Arms Hotel, which remains Bakewell's most distinguished hostelry; an excellent lunch can be had in the restaurant or lounge. There are many other good places for eating and drinking, including the Peacock

Hotel and the Queen's Arms, both on the Market Square, and the Bridge House Restaurant by the lovely town bridge, built around 1300. Bakewell has a good, large bookshop, several fine antique shops, and many buildings of great historic interest, such as the Old Town Hall (1662). The Parish Church, on an imposing hillside site, is large, typically Derbyshire in style, and full of interest, with a superb 14th-century octagonal font and the Vernon Chapel full of grand Elizabethan and Jacobean monuments.

OUTINGS

ROYAL AIR FORCE HENLOW'S AIR DAY: Two-hour flying display with a wide variety of RAF and USAF aircraft including the Hawk, Jet Provost, Bulldog, Jetstream, Gazelle, Jaguar and Buccaneer. Also a Battle of Britain flypast, older displays, aerobatics and stunt flying. Arena events include motor cycle and albatross display teams and bands. Also craft and antique stalls, a fun fair, RAF parachute team.

RAF Henlow near Hitchin, Bedfordshire. Tomorrow. Gates open 9am. Events from 10am. Admission £5 per car plus occupants.

GREAT SHROPSHIRE STEAM AND COUNTRY FAIR: Huge rally of steam engines, a circus and old-time fairground, country crafts and the Shropshire open tug-o-war championships. Jazz band and Morris dancers. West Midlands Showground, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. Today, tomorrow, 10am to late afternoon. Adult £2.50, child £1, car park free.

WALK FOR THE WORLD: Finale of the massive relay walk in which more than 100,000 people have taken part. Many celebrities expected. Singers, bands, a giant jigsaw, an exhibition of Third World crafts and information about the work of many of the organizations who support the walk. Jubilee Gardens, South Bank, London SE1. Today, noon to 5pm. Free.

PLYMOUTH AND DISTRICT HORSE SHOW: Top class horse show with many British and international competitors

and Harvey Smith entered for the first time. An exemption dog show, terrier and lurcher racing, military bands, trade and craft stands. Bickham House, Bickham Estate, Rotherham, near Plymouth. Tomorrow 9.30am to 5pm. Ordinary admission, driver plus car £2, ringside driver plus car £4. Each additional adult £1, child 50p.

BEALE ARBORETUM OPEN DAY: In aid of the National Gardens Scheme, an opportunity to explore the 17-

acre site which contains 350 varieties of tree. The Beale Arboretum, West Lodge Park, Hadley Wood, Hertfordshire, Tomorrow, 2pm-6pm. Adult 50p, child 10p.

WALKING AND FALCONRY DISPLAY: Opportunity to see the falconers' skills at close quarters with static and flying displays during the afternoon. Belvoir Castle, Belvoir, Grantham, Lincolnshire. Tomorrow, from noon. Adult £2.40, child £1.30.

Judy Froshaug

THE TIMES COOK



Putting the spring in Spanish lamb

Times guest cook

Maite Manjon

with some far

from plain dishes

that reign in Spain

Spring is the time of year for lamb, the Spanish have dozens of ways of cooking it, and there is indeed a restaurant in Aranda de Duero which organizes an annual Semana del Cordero or "Lamb Week".

I have chosen a Riojan version using a white Rioja wine and herbs. The kidneys with sherry is a traditional main dish from Andalucía but is served widely in Spain, while caramelized oranges clean the palate and are most refreshing at the end of a meal.

- Roast Lamb Rioja Style Serves 4
2 kg/4 1/2 lbs leg of lamb, boned
Salt
2 tablespoons of olive oil
2 glasses (300ml/10fl oz) dry white Rioja wine
2 tablespoons chopped parsley
3 cloves garlic, chopped
1 tablespoon white vinegar

Make a bed of onions, bay leaves, and peppercorns in a roasting pan. Put the lamb on top, sprinkle with salt, pour on the olive oil and one glass of wine, and roast for 25 minutes per pound at 350°F/180°C/Gas Mark 4, basting from time to time. When the meat is

a colander and discard the liquid. Take a fresh pan, add the strained kidneys and sherry and cook for two minutes.

Mix the butter, arrowroot and meat stock, then pour over the kidneys and cook together for five to 10 minutes, stirring with a wooden spoon. Do not overcook. Serve on a bed of boiled rice, spooning the kidneys on top.

Caramelized oranges Serves 6
8 medium-sized oranges
300ml/10fl oz water
6 tablespoons caster sugar
1/2 vanilla pod

Remove the skin of the oranges with a potato peeler, cut into thin strips and put into a saucepan with the water, sugar, and vanilla pod. Bring to the boil, then simmer slowly for about one hour, watching carefully until the peel is caramelized.

In the meantime, cut the oranges into the segments with a sharp kitchen knife, removing the white pith and collecting any juice in a bowl underneath. Arrange the segments in a serving dish, pour the juice over them, cover with the caramelized peel and leave to cool before serving.

Maite Manjon is the co-author with Jan Read and Hugh Johnson of The Wine and Food of Spain, published by Weidenfeld and Nicolson (£12.95).

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EATING OUT

Mild dose of the hot stuff

I have never, so far as I know, met any of The Curry Club's 8,000 members...

Much as I would have liked to have invented it, the Curry Club really does exist: it has its headquarters in Haslemere...

It also publishes a guide which is akin to the proselytizing guide that the Campaign for Real Ale puts out each year...

Myself, I'm a conchie in this business of food as a self-administered Indian assault...

Sabras in Wiltshire, the Geeta in Kilburn, the Ganpath in King's Cross and Woodlands in Marylebone...

Off I went to Islington, to an establishment included in the Guide's top 30 in Britain...

the lives and kitchen facilities of those who cook them.

"Fish" - a mackerel actually - arrives as though it is an eviscerated snake...

Duck and lamb are treated here in a way which is, I'm told, that of home cooking in Bengal...

Oddly, the most arresting

Le Plat du Jour does include 1.11 in its prices, contrary to our review on May 23.

Armed with the Good Curry Guide, Jonathan Meades goes in search of the best dishes India has to offer in London



the lives and kitchen facilities of those who cook them.

Duck and lamb are treated here in a way which is, I'm told, that of home cooking in Bengal...

Oddly, the most arresting

Le Plat du Jour does include 1.11 in its prices, contrary to our review on May 23.

usually true to its main components. Char grill chicken is bound with coriander which does not bully the fowl into submission...

King prawn masala was delicious - the sauce had a cleanliness and definition that are not achieved by mixing one spicy broth with you...

Ragam bills itself as a specialist in Kerala cuisine. This is a bit of India that is otherwise unrepresented in London...

It's a fine restaurant - cheap, full of people who eat alone and read magazines as they do so (Spectator, Time Out, Searchlight)...

The main menu is best ignored. It's all curry house gear and the Kerala Malabar chicken, the only regional speciality on this part of the bill...

There is, however, a small selection of vegetarian dishes at which the place excels. Some of these are generically southern Indian - crisp dosas filled with spicy potato...

Of the latter, the star is something titled kasalad. This is a bizarre and beguiling, sweet and sourish mango dish - the fruit is used as the basis for a spicy stew...

There's a bar which, I suspect, the late Elvis Presley would be happy to slump against - a very tasty metre or more of red leatherette with ever so nice a top...

Sonar Gaon 46 Upper Street N1 (01-226 6499) Open every day noon-2.30pm and 6-12pm...

IN THE GARDEN

Many a slip twixt road and meadow

This has been the most sensational year for early season wildflowers, especially for two much loved and rather threatened species...

Both these plants are popular in gardens and now is a good time to start thinking of raising new plants from existing stock.

If the plants are comfortably naturalized in grass they will seed and reproduce themselves. Fritillaries prefer a moist situation and both species welcome sun...

If you want to grow plants for a friend, or to start some off in another part of the

garden, it is a good idea to put a marker tag on some plants which have flowered well...

Seed from both fritillaries and cowslips should be sown as soon as it is ripe in a small pot over that length of time...

Some gardeners recommend that fritillaries are not planted out until they are four to five years old but, in my experience, plants are more likely to suffer from neglect...

If you are just starting off a



Purple pose: chequer-bell flowers of the snakeshead fritillary

wild flower meadow area and feel five years is too long to wait for fritillary flowers...

The cowslip seeds bought in packets usually need stratification (a few weeks in the refrigerator in a sandy medium) or to be left outside in the winter frosts before they germinate...

Francesca Greenoak

WEEKEND TIPS

Plant out leeks, using a dibber.

Pick off the small caterpillars of the sawfly moth from gooseberry bushes as soon as they appear...

Net your strawberries if birds are a problem.

Sow early varieties of sweet corn outside in their growing position.

TOMORROW Hampshire: West Silchester Hall, Bramley Road, Silchester; off A340 between Reading and Basingstoke...

Durham: Eggleston Hall Gardens, Eggleston, north-west of Barnard Castle, off B6276; large garden, fine trees, herbaceous, kitchen garden, many unusual plants...

Surrey: Brook Lodge Farm Cottage, Blackbrook, 3 miles south of Dorking off A24; three acres, plantsman's garden, flowering trees, shrubs, herbaceous, greenhouse, kitchen garden; 2-6pm.

Sussex: Moorlands, Friar's Gate, 2 miles north of Groombridge, off B2188; three acres, water garden, pools, streams, many unusual plants; 2-6pm.

GARDENS TO VISIT

TODAY Kent: Rock Farm, Nettlestead, 6 miles west of Maidstone; 1 1/2 acres, fine collection of shrubs and herbaceous plants; also open June 13, 20, 27; 11am-5pm.

Banbury off A422; bulbs, shrubs, clematis, herbaceous; also open tomorrow, and July 4 and 5, 2-7pm.

SPINK COIN AUCTIONS

Sale No. 59 - 10am Wednesday 17th June to be held at the Cavendish Hotel

The Norweb Collection of English Coins Part 4

The final sale of this famous collection which has so far realised over £1 1/4 million.

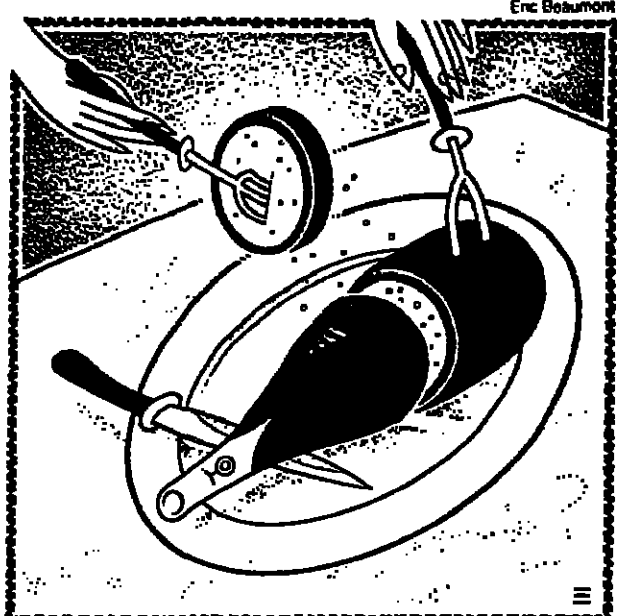
This last sale includes many important pieces and some fascinating rarities to appeal to collectors of the early Anglo-Saxon period right up to the 20th Century.

Spink

DRINK

Bubble and chic for a sparkling picnic

Refreshing tips from Jane MacQuitty on how to stay cool in the summer sizzle



Champagne is still the swiftest and swankiest sparkler for a summer picnic basket. If there are only two of you, or money is no object, my vote for the most stylish, new, non-vintage champagne arrival this summer is Robert Driant's amazing Extra Brut Spécial.

What is remarkable about this balanced, full-flavoured and distinguished champagne is that it is made almost single-handedly by 67-year-old Monsieur Driant of Ay, who does everything from making the wine to packing the boxes for sale.

Rosé champagnes make appealing smart summer drinking but they can be outrageously expensive, so well done The Champagne House for another new find, the Legras non-vintage rosé of Burgundy from Vire, on sale for just £4.99, roughly £1 cheaper than elsewhere.

If you are looking for a classy French summer fizz but don't want to go all the way up to champagne, Crémant de Bourgogne, made by the same method, and, at about a third

of the price, is a worthwhile alternative.

The crémants from Burgundy are currently better than crémant competition from both the Loire and Alsace, chiefly because the Burgundians use finer grape varieties, most notably the Chardonnay and Pinot Noir.

But what does seem extraordinary about this carefully handcrafted product is that it is a no dosage champagne, without any of that traditional, and forgiving, sweetness or dosage to round out its corners.

Ugly labels are, it seems, a problem at the methode champenoise, but non-champagne, end of the market, Ackerman-Laurance, one of the best producers in the Loire, based in Saumur, has just released over here a stylish new 1811 Ackerman Saumur Rosé, but its label

with a busy red sash and gold medallion, would not win any prizes for design. Never mind. Wrap the bottle in a white napkin and none of your guests are likely to complain, especially as this pinky-orange non-vintage fizz has a charming, fresh, strawberry-like bouquet and palate, plus a light, lemony style. Again the chief reason why this fizz is superior to the other Saumur roses is its grapes, 80 per cent of the class's Cabernet Franc to just 20 per cent of the inferior Groslot Cris (Freddie Barrett's Liqueurmaris, £5.19).

Anyone who is entertaining on a large scale this summer and wants to serve a sparkling wine should call in at any of Majestic Wine Warehouses' 21 branches next weekend. Nine different champagnes and sparkling wines ranging from G. F. Cavalier's excellent fizz (£2.69) up to Krug's glorious Grande Cuvée (£27.50) will be available for tasting, free of charge, all day on both June 13 and 14.

Finally, don't forget the generous offer at Oddbins this summer with seven bottles of any one champagne for the price of six. Amazingly this offer is unlimited so even if you ordered six cases of champagne, Oddbins would still supply you with a whole case, free.

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SPINK COIN AUCTIONS. Sale No. 59 - 10am Wednesday 17th June to be held at the Cavendish Hotel. The Norweb Collection of English Coins Part 4.

THE ARTS

The Times reviewers report back from the stages of Glasgow, London, Paris and Sheffield

Problems with memory

Irish memories were shorter and British memories longer, said the very Irish Irishman serving the Guinness behind the bar in the first gently debunking programme of *Crown and Shamrock*, Channel 4's series on the Anglo-Irish, his country's troubles would be lessened.

TELEVISION

him on BBC-1. The delightful literary showman revealed his rich hoard of throw-away lines, discarded with the schooled abandon of one who knows that thieves could never conjure the same magic from his words. "I did not feel I was betraying God," he twinkled when describing the adolescent delights of cooking a snoop at the bare curves of artists models.

Singer declared that a writer also needed "an address". His address, in a pre-war Warsaw ghetto, is now the stuff of memory. But the film took him back to an American address, playing with memories which were transformed into his poignant story of displaced exile, *A Day In Coney Island*, which became the programme's leitmotif.

A leitmotif of *Crown and Shamrock* was the repeated appearance of the head of a very old Anglo-Irish family who has managed to keep both his address and his memory. Of course, to keep the property the family occasionally had to indulge in some politic forgetting, not to say a bit of betraying God when bowing the curves and hankies of certain wealthy English ladies. The man was now all for memory, complaining that his country's troubles made people want to forget how long was the line he came from. There was no doubting though as he posed next to a portrait of an ancestor whom he thought he looked "sly". Sly or no, he was a spitting image

Andrew Hislop

THEATRE

Bet Noir Young Vic Studio

The wincing pun at least announces the subject matter of James Mundy's gripping play. Gambling, the lure of winners, sure fire, money to be placed on; and shirts, the losing of.

For those of us unexcited by the relative speed of animals the names Redcar, Ripon and Thirk are just so many spots on the map, but for Mundy's hero, Michael, they hold out the promise that today, at Redcar, or in the Amberley Stakes at Goodwood, a fortune will at last be made.

In his first full-length play the author's dramatic line follows a classically simple curve, the winning climb followed by the losing fall. The visible action is limited to Michael's bedside, though the really unnerving events occur on distant race courses and are brought into the play by way of television and radio, commentaries provided by Robin Soans, who plays Michael, perfectly mimicking the familiar acceleration towards winning-post frenzy.

Soans's fine performance, alone on stage for nearly two hours, shows the defenceless quality of someone whose source of well-being always lies outside himself.

Possible sources of a compulsion emerge from the pattern of imaginary dialogues. These coat a bitter childhood with the sugar of comedy that let us taste the sharpness too. Scriptwriting for the *Two Ronnies* may have helped Mundy to establish a scene quickly but the expert end to the first act shows a more profound sense of drama at work. By an artful use of a taped broadcast of a race, itself a logical element of the gambler's rituals, the audience is left in possession of information withheld from the rejoicing hero.

Given an exemplary direction by Celia Bannerman, carrying the drama forward as in a sequence of giant waves, the play is a notable debut for the newly-formed Eclipse Productions.

Jeremy Kingston

Slapstick Sunday hilarity

C'Est Dimanche Amandiers, Nanterre

C'Est Dimanche, by Jérôme Deschamps, defies definition. It is not really a play, it certainly has no plot. To say it is a piece of mime is misleading, even though there is no spoken dialogue. Nor is it a circus act, despite a number of dextrous displays of juggling and several intriguing illusions. What it is, without question, is very, very funny—as was gloriously obvious from the laughter-stained faces of the intellectually inclined first-night audience at Patrice Chéreau's Théâtre des Amandiers in the Paris suburb of Nanterre.

Into Laurent Peduzzi's perfect design—a bar counter and a naked light-bulb against a plain backdrop, which illustrates that it takes real talent to represent almost everything with practically nothing—arrives an ancient pram, pushed by the world and his wife, in the guise of Deschamps, Jean-Marc Bihour and Christine Pignet. From the pram's seemingly bottomless interior, this mute trio proceed to create a non-stop stream of surrealistic, slapstick Sundays.

Uncle Vanya Crucible Studio, Sheffield

Second only to Shakespeare as a main-house author, Chekhov rarely appears in studio productions, and it always comes as a shock to find his work regains its original freshness under point-blank scrutiny.

Given that starting advantage, Tom Cairns's production still emerges as a stunning directorial debut: beautifully orchestrated, stripped to the nerve endings, and holding all the characters in a shimmering equipoise of yearning, regret and stoical affection for



Jean-Marc Bihour, Christine Pignet and Jérôme Deschamps in *C'Est Dimanche*: no visual gag is left unturned

A superbly put together potpourri of ordinary activities, pushed to extraordinary extremes, the show strips to the bone the heaven and hell of the biblical day of rest. No visual gag is left unturned. But, just as it is about to flip over and land on its familiar face, Deschamps spins it off in an even more hilarious new direction. He leads the audience on until they are chuckling in anticipation. Then, without warning, he whips away the expected banana-skin and throws down one that is completely unexpected, thus doubling the effect and quadrupling the laughter.

Behind the bar is a "staircase" and an electric platform "lift" which regularly take the performers down into the depths of their imagination. Every descent lets loose a pack of domestic demons, relayed to the audience by a series of loudly realistic noises. Every re-actant culminates in yet another increasingly funny visual punline.

Deschamps, however, peppers his brand of custard pies with a highly individual socio-intellectual seasoning. With just three actors he manages to evoke grotesque caricatures of nearly all the people one has

ever known. Outflanking almost anything Fellini could muster are Bihour and Pignet: the former a simple-headed pipe-cleaner able to sharpen his nose and recede his chin at will; the latter a fat lady straight off a seaside picture-postcard, made not just flesh but heart and soul. Then there is Deschamps himself, most enigmatic of the three performers; he is a malignant hermaphrodite, masquerading as a composite Giles cartoon.

Chekhov in close-up

what music offers the only analogy. As the work of a designer, though it makes its first impact through the use of space. The set consists of two roughly papered white walls, with an alcove bathed in yellow light, conveying an atmosphere at once austere, slovenly, and romantic; a blank canvas suggesting everything that is to come.

As in all productions, it is the disquieting figure of Yelena, the visitor, who throws the household into turmoil. Mr Cairns signals this from her first appearance when the longing Astrov springs up to greet her with Sonya standing

behind him—making a straight line expressing apathy, desire, and unrequited love, before any of the characters have declared their feelings. Helen Cooper's Yelena is not the usual languid beauty; but a sharp, willful lady who turns boredom into a positive attribute (walking all over Astrov's maps) and takes decisive action in sorting out Sonya's future. This is a questionable reading. But it certainly spares the audience from falling for her at the expense of the surrounding

characters. It also intensifies the pain of her marriage (thrashing about, desperate for sleep, as Christopher Burgess's Serebryakov drones on and on), and makes for a wonderful reconciliation when the ice breaks between her and Sonya. Here, as throughout the performance, Janine Davitski is heart-breaking: an elf-like figure with pinched features and huge beseeching eyes, torn between affection for the three impossible menfolk, and finally settling back into routine with Matthew Long's Vanya in the quietest and most truthful treatment of the ending I have yet seen.

Irving Wardle

ROCK

Bryan Adams Marquee

Finding himself in London with time to spare before the Prince's Trust concerts, Bryan Adams decided at roughly 48 hours' notice that he would like to play the Marquee.

With sales of his 1984 album *Reckless* now past the seven million mark, the idea was not in aid of his bank balance, and if he had wanted a sauna there were presumably better ways of going about it than undergoing a sweat-soaked hour and a half on a cramped, poorly-ventilated Soho stage.

But Adams and his group wanted nothing more than to reaffirm their bar-room roots, and have a crack at playing the world's most famous rock club. For once, the place was not full of European tourists.

Looking like Joe Normal, with a marines' haircut and a grey sweatshirt, Adams laun-

ched into the ferocious shuffle of "Only the Strong Survive", and the reasons why he and his band have not been compelled to play in venues of this nature for a very long time became abundantly clear. With their powers of projection honed to cope with the most enormous gigs, and years of first-division road experience behind them, they made it all look and sound laughably easy, while still taking nothing for granted.

The sound balance was as near perfect as I have heard at this venue. Adams's and Keith Scott's guitars meshed with clipped, chunky precision throughout, particularly during "It's Only Love" and "Somebody", while Adams sang battle-cries ("Kids Wanna Rock") and ballads ("Heaven") alike in his rough-edged Paul Rodgers/Rod Stewart art voice, capturing the essence of the traditional rock qualities of bravura and vulnerability.

What is it they say about bus drivers and rock stars on holiday?

David Sinclair

Hidden treasures revealed

RADIO

The operas of Monteverdi and Handel are staged with reasonable frequency by the major companies. Cavalli and Haydn have had their chances. Some intrepid souls have even delved into the protocols and mystique of Rameau and Lully. Yet Christoph Willibald Gluck, who surely ranks alongside these pre-Mozart masters, appears to have missed a full-scale "revival" so far.

One hopes the bicentenary of his death (this November) prompts some opera houses to look beyond *Orfeo* and the *Iphigénie* operas—although *La Scala*, to its credit, has given us *Alceste*. They may find hidden treasure.

This weekend Radio 3 does exactly that, by broadcasting new BBC recordings of three almost unknown works. Gluck wrote them to celebrate

the wedding of the future Emperor Joseph II to a Bavarian princess, an event which clearly dominated central Europe's social calendar in 1765.

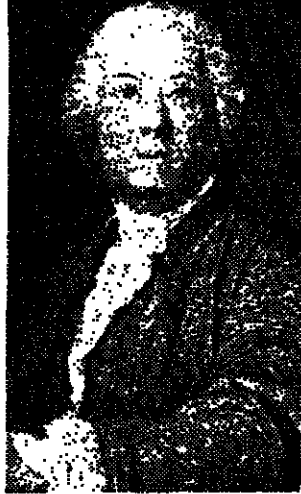
Il Parnaso confuso (tonight, 6.35pm) is a one-act farce about the panic created among the Muses on the sacred slopes when (guess what?) the Emperor Joseph II brings forward his wedding by 24 hours. Something of an in-joke among Gluck's musicians, perhaps. In the 1765 performance the Archduke Leopold directed the orchestra, and four of the Emperor's sisters portrayed Apollo and the Muses. Judging by the demanding arias Gluck wrote for them, the standard of colouratura singing among the nobility was at an all-time high.

Metastasio's libretto ostentatiously sprinkles references to classical legends like confetti, before the Muses decide that stammering sincerity is the best gift to take to a

wedding. Gluck's score, however, never stutters for an instant: the arias in which the Muses take up "lyre" and "pipe" are ravishingly orchestrated.

So, too, is *Semiramis* (tomorrow, 5pm), a short ballet after Voltaire's tragedy. But here one can sense *sturm und drang* tensions straining beneath the customary elegant surfaces. However, it is the big two-act *Telemaque* (tomorrow, 7.30pm) that best demonstrates Gluck's dramatic innovations. It relates the story of Ulysses's escape from the enchantress Circe with breathtaking structural audacity—running the overture into the action, cutting into arias for dramatic effect, and making telling use of accompanied recitative and linked ensembles.

Roger Norrington paces all three operas admirably. There is good original-instrument playing from the London Classical Players, and Nancy



Gluck: still awaiting a revival

Argenta's Muse of Tragedy, Eiddwen Harry's Circe and Christopher Robson's full-bodied counter-tenor Telemaque particularly catch the ear.

Richard Morrison

CONCERTS

RPO/Ashkenazy Festival Hall

Some conductors are more fortunate with their appointments than others. Vladimir Ashkenazy is now well installed in his new position as music director of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and the standard of playing in this Russian evening made it clear that he had inherited a body of players at the top of their corporate form.

Of all the London orchestras, the RPO is arguably the most consistent at the moment. The ensemble is sure footed and in the romantic repertoire the orchestra's fine sense of balance between sections creates a distinctively warm and rich blend of sound. Their glorious resonance at the height of Tchaikovsky's *Francesca da Rimini* could easily be recognized as an RPO speciality.

In one sense, at least, Ashken-

azy's performances do not give the impression that he is an orchestral trainer in the way that Dorati, for example, was before him. His interests lie elsewhere, primarily in the outpouring of emotion that he brings so persuasively to all the music he conducts.

Under his leadership Tchaikovsky's *Fantasy-Overture Romeo and Juliet* was played for all its worth. Not a phrase lacked meaning. The battle of the Capulets and Montagues was fiercely fought, while the dying embrace of the lovers lingered extravagantly at a tempo that would surely have seemed too slow, if it had not breathed with such a strong feeling of spontaneity.

In the Fourth Piano Concerto of Rachmaninov the soloist was Cristina Ortiz-bright, disciplined, cleanly-controlled, with the brilliance of finger work that this late concerto demands, though not its full weight of attack. The slow movement would have benefited from a deeper sense of nostalgia in the piano solos.

Richard Fairman

SKY
IN THIS ISSUE
MADONNA LIFTS & SEPARATES.

JIM KERR gets serious
ROSANNA ARQUETTE fools around
HIT THE BEACH Clothes in tune with the dunes
LIVING IN A BOX This way up

Bella Madonna

YOUR FORTNIGHTLY GUIDE TO MOVIES, MUSIC AND FASHION INCLUDES A GIGANTIC 4 PAGE FOLD OUT OF MRS. PENN.

Italians go world-wide

DANCE

Aterballetto Theatre Royal, Bath

Continuing its Italian connection, the Bath's festival has brought Aterballetto from Emilia Romagna for two performances at the Theatre Royal. The programme includes works by two distinguished guest choreographers as well as the company's artistic director, Amedeo Amodio.

The Picasso decor for *Parade* loses something in this small theatre but the size of the stage and auditorium lend a sense of intimacy to Massine's choreography. Perhaps this is not altogether flattering to the dancers. They all perform with vivacity, especially Federico Betti and Donatella Sturam as the acrobats and the two men who play the pantomime horse, but there is not so much sharpness of detail as one would wish.

On the other hand, it would not be fair to carp too much about a company of only 19 dancers which tackles so diverse a repertoire and brings good ballet to a wide mix of audiences. William Forsythe's *Love Songs* is at the opposite end of the artistic spectrum from *Parade*, but they give it with equal enthusiasm.

little more savagery from most of the cast, because the title is ironic. The love songs in question are recordings by Aretha Franklin and Dionne Warwick to which Forsythe sets solos or duets illustrating ways in which women can be hurt by love.

Only Marie-Helene Cosentino, in her solo to "Always Something There to Remind Me", really gets enough passion into her dancing. But Forsythe's choreography carries enough of a punch to make its points anyway, and it was high time that somebody should introduce British audiences to his work.

Amodio's version of *L'Après-Midi d'un Faune* is also new to this country. For some reason he has prefaced Debussy's music with some doodling on a solo flute, and his duet seems to be about a torrid holiday encounter between two beautiful people who went to a very fancy boutique for their beachwear. Patrizia Comini and Marc Renouard dance it sensuously.

Amodio's *Ricercare*, to three Vivaldi concertos (for trumpet, mandolin, and piccolo) is a ballet in which the dancers look most at home. Its dances show off nicely several of the soloists and the company as a whole. There is nothing startlingly original about it, just pleasant, skilled and easily enjoyable dancing.

John Percival

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John Percival

BRIDGE

A serious turn for sponsors

The British bridge authorities are reluctantly coming to terms with the harsh realities of bridge sponsorship.

This year has seen the advent of three new sponsors. Vic Mayhew of Buckinghamshire has arranged a special Pairs contest to be sponsored by British Car Rental.

The La Manga Club is taking over the sponsorship of the 1988 Spring Foursomes, providing prizes of more than £5,000.

Johnson & Johnson is the third new name. The Empathy Pairs for women attracted an entry of more than 4,000 pairs, drawn from 300 clubs.

The winners of the Empathy Trophy and £1,000 worth of Zales Jewellery of their choice were:

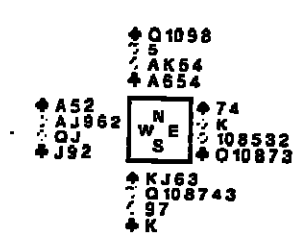
1st: Chris Wilson and Shirley Roberts; 2nd: Naomi Sinclair and Jean Fogg; 3rd: Marjorie Whiteside and Pamela Peaches.

I am less enthusiastic about the Epsom World Simultaneous Pairs contest. With only 24 boards, played against opp-

osition of vastly disparate ability, it is little better than a lottery.

This hand from the final of the Empathy Pairs is a salutary lesson for those who play weak two bids but depart from the established guidelines.

Pairs. East West game. Dealer South.



Some Souths, possibly tempted by the favourable vulnerability, opened with two hearts which became the final contract. The bid of two hearts is bad on two counts: the poor quality of the trumps and the good support for the other major.

If South passes, West will open one heart and North will double. It is unsound with the South's hand to convert the double for penalties because of the broken quality of the hearts.

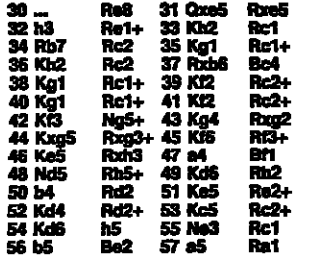
Jeremy Flint

CHESS

So close, yet so far from a great win

In last month's Euwe Memorial International Tournament in Amsterdam, Karpov came close to undivided victory, but then ran up against desperately ingenious last round resistance from Timman in what had looked like a hopeless situation.

White: Karpov; Black: Timman.



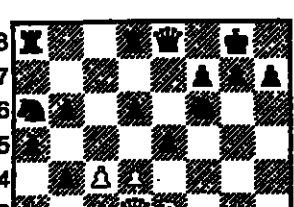
Draw agreed. After 57 a6 Bxb5 58 Rxb5 Rxa6+ White cannot win.

Black resigns

may render the entire text meaningless. I therefore apologize to readers for two errors which crept into my article of May 23. White's 26th move and Black's 30th were omitted from the page.

I now give the critical position of the game once again for disappointed readers whose enjoyment of Karpov's fine technique was spoiled by gremlins.

White: Karpov; Black: Korchnoi.



Erwe Memorial, Amsterdam May 1987. Play proceeded:

- 17 Ne4 18 Qa2+ 19 Qa3 20 Rb1 21 Rb2 22 Nd3 23 Nd5 24 Nc6 25 f3 26 Nd1-c2 27 Nd5 28 Nd6 29 Nd5 30 Nd6 31 Rb5 32 Rb6 33 Rb6 34 Kf8 35 a4 36 Kf2

Black resigns

Raymond Keene

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1276

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, June 11. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, June 13.

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

SOLUTION TO NO 1275

ACROSS: 1 Crying 4 Purser 7 Odds 8 Camisole 9 Halcyon 11 Sore 12 Stock Exchange 13 Sweet 14 Cabinet 15 Golgotha 16 Alibi 17 Lapped 18 Tinsel. DOWN: 1 Clothes 2 Yodel 3 Gecko 4 Pomp 5 Sporan 6 Reef 7 Yoke 11 Sahib 12 Calm period 14 Oxford 15 Soggy 17 Apart 18 Rolls 19 Stud

The winners of prize concise No 1270 are: Mrs H James, Ridgway Road, Farnham, Surrey, and Mr G Aldridge, Albert Road, Stamford, Lincolnshire

SOLUTION TO NO 1270 (last Saturday's prize concise)

ACROSS: 1 Tactic 4 Latest 7 Camp 8 Unconscious 9 John Benjamin 15 Geneva 16 Funnell 17 Disorientate 23 Adherent 24 Rosy 25 Expect 26 Hassle. DOWN: 1 Top 2 Compounds 3 Crumb 4 Licit 5 Truce 6 Sams 10 Never 11 Inuit 12 Monstrous 13 Null 14 Aged 18 Index 19 Ocrey 20 Jeant 21 Notch 22 Kyle

Name and Address fields for the crossword solution.

REVIEW

Dishing the dirty



PAPERBACKS

Close-up, by Len Deighton (Grafton Books, £3.50). The Secrets of Harry Bright, by Joseph Wambaugh (Sphere, £2.95). The Last Election, by Pete Davies (Penguin, £3.95). Look to the Lady, by Margery Allingham (Penguin, £3.95). Ceremony, by Robert B. Parker (Penguin, £2.95).

Hollywood has often laughed at itself, but it has never torn aside the tissue to show itself peopled by snarkers and hypocrites. For this reason Len Deighton's Close-Up, though many of his other books have reached the screen, seems unlikely to follow them.

He dips his pen in the vitriol of personal experience, searing actors, producers and money-men alike. Their greed, vanities and insincerities are brutally caught, together with the jargon of their hollow trade.

There is also fine jargon in The Secrets of Harry Bright. Author Joseph Wambaugh has a note of acknowledgement to six separate American police departments, all within siren's yelp of Palm Springs, "For the wonderful cop talk". Wonderful it is, in combinations and permutations of companionable obscenity, but there is an innocence about its usage that somehow cleans it up.

Wambaugh is also deeply inventive on his own account. The tale of two Los Angeles cops jerked from their urban element into the Californian desert wastes to pursue an old, cold murder trail is immensely intricate but brilliantly controlled, the elusive piece of jigsaw always dropped in just as you despair of finding it.

For good measure, the author throws in slices of high comedy. The two sleuths, their cover being a golfing holiday, play a round which

could hold its own with A.G. Macdonell's classic cricket match, though neither that writer nor his followers would have known most of the words.

There is clean dirt and dirty dirt. In my view, The Last Election is vile in its degradation, and not only on account of its sickening pornographic passages which must have just squeezed past the Obscene Publications Act.

It is set in the near future, when the least attractive of Britain's present lifestyles are projected into a nightmare of violence, viciousness, and filth. The gorge rises. This is a first novel. Its author is very young, and very clever. It seems sad that from his

experience of life so far he has distilled nothing of joy.

He would have left Mr Albert Campion aghast. True, under great pressure of bafflement in Margery Allingham's novel to the Lady, Campion does burst out with "What the hell?"

It was my mistake, perhaps, to read about Miss Allingham's tweedy, well-spoken genteel folk so soon after the Davies gallery of drug-sodden fornicators. However, we can always look to this lady for a well-crafted mystery, though my own preference is for interesting corpses rather than the disappearance of jewelled chalice from locked rooms in east wings.

Back to America, and private investigator Spenser.

This genuinely nice guy, tough, ethical, and witty, is the creation of Robert B. Parker, a US professor of English, and is here charged, in Ceremony (from a Yeats quotation), with the rescue of 16-year-old April, who has quit school to become a whore of eye-opening versatility amid the red lights of Boston, Mass.

Spenser's girlfriend Susan has an equal freshness. When the pair of them get together in "domestic" exchanges - this isn't even a permanent shack-up - they are pretty to hear, and a lesson to all aspiring writers of crisp and credible dialogue.

Basil Boothroyd

NEW PAPERBACKS

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

FICTION Porterhouse Blue, by Tom Sharpe (Secker & Warburg, £3.95) New edition, to coincide with Channel 4 series, about Skulion-duggery at Cambridge college.

The Game of the Season, by Hugh de Selincourt (Oxford, £2.95) Amiable classic short stories of village cricket.

The Handmaid's Tale, by Margaret Atwood (Virago, £3.95) Savage satire of dystopia for women after the Bomb.

The Incomer, by Margaret Elphinstone (The Women's Press, £2.95) Science fiction of feminist future also after Bomb.

The Italian Lesson, by James Elliot (Hodder & Stoughton, £2.95) Clever and bitter-sweet comedy about the British abroad.

NON-FICTION Living With a Stranger, by John Stewart Collis (Val Publishing, £3.50) The stranger is the body in which we live; about exploration of this machine we take for granted.

Nelson, by Carol Oman (Hodder & Stoughton, £12.95) Abridgement of stirring 1947 biography of our best-loved national hero.

The Philosophy of John Stuart Mill, by Alan Ryan (Macmillan, £5.95) Clever and classic demonstration that the gods of Mill may grind slowly, but they grind exceedingly consistently.

The Home Front, by E. Sylvia Pankhurst (Cresset, £5.95) Hurly-burly reportage and comment on bleak, brave times in East End during the First World War.

The Loom of Language, by Frederick Bodmer (Merlin Press, £7.95) First paperback of learned and racy dressing-up chest of linguistic matters.

THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

Snaps for charity

A strange assembly of pictures has been sent To The Lighthouse this week in aid of Aids victims. That's the title of an exhibition by students of the City of London Polytechnic's photography school, to which Sir John Gielgud, Maureen Lipman, Denis Norden and Fay Godwin, among other celebrities, have donated items to help the Lighthouse Project establish a hospice in Ladbroke Grove. Everything is for sale to the highest bidders at the exhibition, which is at Camerawork, Bethnal Green, east London, until Tuesday.

Money moves

One MP who will not be returning to the House whatever the outcome of the election is ex-minister Sir Adam Butler. The Courtauld Institute has secured his services as chairman of the American Friends of the Courtauld. His full name is Adam Courtauld Butler - he is the grandson of the founder of the Institute, Samuel Courtauld.

Glenda Jackson, the patron of Age Exchange Theatre, the professional company which takes old people's memories of the 1920s and '30s and turns them into plays, opened the Reminiscences Centre last week. But it may not be able to stage the next production. From Steppen Green to Golders Green was scheduled to tour London as part of July's Jewish East End Festival, but lack of interest may prevent it. Director Pam Schweitzer circulated dozens in the Jewish business community but got one response. It was from a well known tailor who doesn't want credit for his donation - a teaser.

Pure Olivier

A story about Lord Olivier, and Sir Alec Guinness which has been circulating during the former's 80th birthday celebrations. "Ah, Alec dear boy," says our first theatre



peer. "I want to do a new Merchant and you would be so good in it." Guinness mutters about commitments, but cannot resist running through a few Shylockian gestures. "Yes," enthuses Olivier, "you'd be the perfect Gobbo."

Voice over?

The knotty problem of whether there should be a Scottish National Theatre seems no nearer solution after this week's conference, called by the Advisory Council for the Arts in Scotland. Tom Fleming, director of the Scottish Theatre Company, said the debate had been going on for 25 years. But Fleming, the voice of televised state occasions, has his own problems: he is waiting to hear if the Scottish Arts Council will continue to help fund his company.

Simon Tait

A couch of sharp edges

ROCK RECORDS

Go West: Dancing on the Couch (Chrysalis CDL 1550) Swing Out Sister: It's Better to Travel (Phonogram OUTLP1)

"Shipbuilding"-style swing in "The King is Dead", the jewel in this record's crown. The fine keyboard playing, together with Randy Brecker's aching flugelhorn and Kate Bush's breathy backing vocals, adds

considerable authority to an album that otherwise tastes sharp but lacks body.

Swing Out Sister's debut, It's Better to Travel, has already reached No 1 with the aid of its three singles success, "Twilight World", "Surrender" and "Breakout".

Corinne Drewery's fruity voice leads the ensemble through the melancholy mood and awkward swing of "After Hours" and a couple of tougher dancefloor tracks, "Blue Mood" and "It's Not Enough", but the most appealing number is "Theme", a long synth-orchestrated instrumental piece that closes the album with a depth of musical imagination that few of the group's peers can match.

David Sinclair

Back on the beat

JAZZ RECORDS

Tony Williams Civilization (Blue Note BT-85138)

Talent-spotted by Miles Davis at the age of 16, Tony Williams is one of the great innovators of jazz drumming - a lineage of influential characters from Baby Dodds through Jo Jones and Max Roach to Sunny Murray.

Two mid-Sixties albums for Blue Note, Life Time and Spring, proved that Williams was also an imaginative composer and musical organizer, but his career was derailed in the early Seventies by the false

lures of the jazz-rock craze. Civilization marks his return to proper music, at the head of a quintet dealing solely in uncompromising but highly listenable modern jazz.

Three Jazz Messengers past and present - Wallace Roney (trumpet), Bill Pierce (saxophone) and Mulgrew Miller (piano) - join Williams and the bass prodigy Charnette Moffett on eight of the leader's intriguing and darkly atmospheric themes. Inspired by the demanding sophistication of Williams's percussion, the improvising is of a uniformly high order.

Richard Williams

CLASSICAL RECORDS

Strauss: Ariadne auf Naxos. Tomowa-Sintow/Battle/Saitta/Lakes. Vienna Phil/Lesona. DG 419 225-2, 2 CDs.

Richard Strauss's Ariadne auf Naxos, so difficult to bring off in the theatre, may be easier in the recording studio. Indeed James Levine makes it sound that way in a set which oozes easy fluency from the playing of the Vienna Philharmonic, reduced to chamber orchestra proportions for this opera, through to the all-round excellence of the cast. Levine, until he comes to the final duet which has had more than its fair share of stick over

Straussian fluency

the years, uses the lightest of touches and the Viennese players respond to the score as it trends the path from backstage banter and to full Straussian lunacy.

Anna Tomowa-Sintow in the title role is now one of our leading Straussians. She is very much the grande dame, living in a quite different world to the highly accomplished trio of nymphs who surround her. She has a blessedly fresh and arrogant Bacchus in Gary Lakes, in

contrast to some of the tenors who go on grinding their way through this impossible role year after year - it is curious that America has been the main provider of Bacchuses in this half of the century, with Lakes following in the tradition of Jess Thomas and James King.

Kathleen Battle, another American, is equally fresh-sounding as Zerbinetta. She may not have the brilliance of Gruberova, but there is a blend of sauciness and show-biz

charm which goes to the heart of the role. If Tomowa-Sintow is the ruling Ariadne, then Battle is challenging for top position as Zerbinetta. The only feeling of disappointment centres on Agnes Baltha's Kommoset, which misses the adolescent idealism of a part possibly a touch high for her nowadays. There is a sufficient sprinkling of Viennese names to make this a highly idiomatic performance right through to Otto Schenk's Hausofmeister.

On this form it is good news that James Levine is just about to record Eugene Onegin in Dresden for DG.

John Higgins

SHOPPING

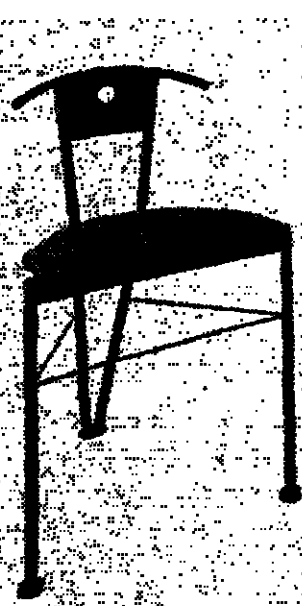
Think big: stay small

The Independent Designers Federation is breaking new ground in interior decor - and not just for the elite

Last week, contemporary British design received royal endorsement when the Prince of Wales visited the Independent Designers Federation, and met the cooperative's designer-makers, some of whose pieces are currently on show in Harrods' Furniture Theatre.

Brainchild of Scottish interior designer Bill Borland, the IDF was created in 1985 to increase awareness of British design at home and abroad. It is made up of more than 70 small firms designing and producing furniture, lighting, ceramics and textiles.

Although the IDF's north London showroom primarily attracts architects, interior designers and contract specifiers, anyone looking for unusual lighting, well-made innovative furniture and summing textiles would do well to drop in. All the pieces are on sale, and the IDF is happy to act as



Thinking ahead: (above) Café table (£290) and chair (£160), from Harrods; (right) Cog & Wheel print (£6.50 a metre), from IDF showroom

are very innovative. They are steering away from the French and Spanish monochrome tubular designs through the introduction of more colour and texture which, I think, is what people are looking for.

"The IDF has done a marvellous job, persuading designers to adopt a more professional approach. Previously, they were just dabbling. The furniture was very expensive and not particularly well made. Now they're coming up with items which are commercially viable, not just high art."

or as individual commissions may seem expensive when compared to mass-produced products.

But this need not always be so, explains Rob Smith, joint-partner of contemporary furniture retailers, Maison Designs. "We were very impressed with Richard Heady's pieces at the IDF because he offers the kind of products people actually want to buy. But the first one we stocked - a free-standing mirror - cost £200, which we felt was far too expensive.

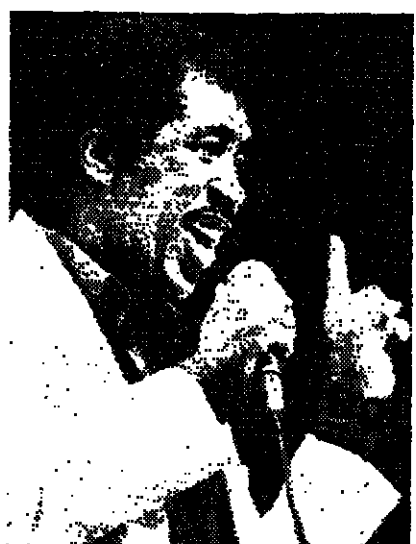
"After we advised him about realistic pricing, his subsequent designs are selling well - a semi-circular wall mirror with shelf at £98, a variable shelving system from £195 and a side table at £69."

In defence of the IDF's lack of a manufacturing base (which would help bring down prices to an economic level), Borland says: "The IDF was set up to create a profile for British designers. But in order to establish a market we are looking to produce commercially viable designs - and that means having direct Government backing, as they do in France and Spain, or becoming a charitable trust to support the effort long enough to create a market."

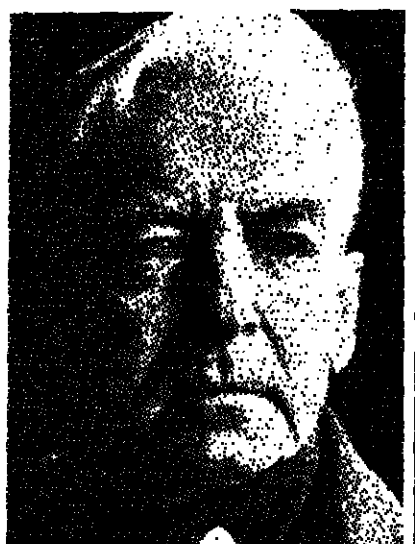
But whatever funding is secured, if these inspiring home-grown designs are to penetrate beyond a privileged shopping elite, price tags must become more realistic and the pieces themselves more readily accessible in the shops.

Nicole Swengley Independent Designers Federation, 30 Bruges Place, Randolph Street, London NW1 0JL (01-485 4555). Open by appointment, Mon-Fri, 9.30am-5.30pm, and every first Saturday of the month, without appointment, 10am-4pm. British designs at Harrods Furniture Theatre until June 28.

THE WEEK AHEAD



ROCK
DRIFTING BACK: Ben E. King has not been slow to venture through the doors that have opened following the Number One success of "Stand By Me".



CONCERTS
BRAHMIN: Herbert von Karajan, the celebrated German conductor, now 79, makes one of his rare visits to Britain.



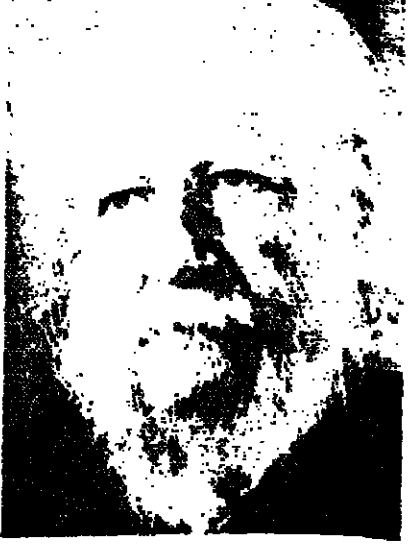
OPERA
FROM THE DEEP: Leo Nucci is one of a rich crop of Italian baritones. Maybe it is the presence of men like Bruson, Cappuccilli and Zancanaro which has stopped him being heard in Britain more often.



DANCE
MAPLE LEAF MASTER: James Kudelica, remembered for his work as a soloist with the National Ballet of Canada, is now, at 31, resident choreographer of Les Grandes Ballets Canadiennes.



FILMS
POP GUNS: Alex Cox claims he made Straight to Hell (15), a spaghetti Western parody, because "I left my motorcity in Spain and wanted to get it".



BOOKS
SEA TRIALS: William Golding's Close Quarters continues the long voyage to Australia - in an elderly man-of-war during the days of Nelson - which began with Rites of Passage.

THEATRE OPENINGS

ALL THE ARTS OF HURTING: London run for Adrian Monahan in Roger Stennett's play about First World War poet Wilfred Owen.

OUT OF TOWN

EDINBURGH: Playing with Fire: World premiere of John Clifford's re-working of the Faust legend, set in Paris during the Hundred Years War.

CONCERTS

BORODIN OPPORTUNITY: This concert, with Beethoven's Quartet Op 58 No 3 and Shostakovich's Quartet No 15, is our only chance of hearing the great Borodin Quartet in London this season.

QUIZ COMPETITION

THE TIMES / DEC SCHNEIDER COMPETITION
Today's question: For years after the First World War, one of the most popular aircraft in use by the "Flying Circus" was the Avro trainer. What was its type number?

OPERAS

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: The Prom season starts this week with 700 Proms places available at £3 each on the day.

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA

JENKIN'S EAR: New play by Dusty Hughes, about a retired foreign correspondent drawn into present day conflict in Central America.

ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD

ALMEIDA FESTIVAL: The Decisive (Die Massnahme) marks the beginning of the creative partnership between Hans Eisler and Bertolt Brecht.

GALLERIES OPENINGS

BRIDGET RILEY: Recent paintings by the best of the Sixties Op artists. Exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1 (01-734 3558), Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm.

SELECTED

JOHN NASH: More than a hundred works, mainly landscapes, in a variety of media by the lesser-known, but equally able, brother of Paul.

RADIO

After strong television roles in Edge of Darkness and After Pilkington, Bob Peck makes his first radio drama appearance for 17 years in Jack Gerson's thriller, Death's Head Berlin.

ROCK

SUZANNE VEGA: The ex-Greenwich Village folksie winds up a successful British tour with her band tonight, Poole Arts Centre (0202 685222) and with two solo shows tomorrow.

TELEVISION

MAN AND MUSIC: The prestige music series reaches classical Vienna, with six programmes evoking the glories of Gluck, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert.

PHOTOGRAPHY

LICHFIELD'S ROYAL ALBUM: A feast for all those whose love affair with the Royal Family is never-ending: sumptuous, elegant, high colour, but rarely candid.

WALKS

TODAY
HAMPSTEAD TOUR - C18th SPA VILLAGE: meet Hampstead Tube, 2pm, £2.75.

FILMS

NOBODY'S FOOL (15): Rosanna Arquette as a small-town girl with a past, nervously sinking out with a new acquaintance (Eric Roberts).

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

Continued from facing page
SATURDAY
BBC1 WALES: 6.20-6.25pm Sport News Wales; 6.30-6.35pm News Wales; 6.40-6.45pm News Wales; 6.50-6.55pm News Wales.

FILMS

SCOTTISH BALLET: The tour of Peter Darrell's Tales of Hoffmann continues today at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh (01 228 1201) and Tues to June 13 at His Majesty's, Aberdeen (0224 641122).

FILMS ON TV

Betty Bennett/Mundell Lowe: Bennett, who has sung with the big bands of Woody Herman, Benny Goodman and Claude Thornhill, teams up with the fine guitarist who nowadays doubles as director of the Monterey Jazz Festival.

WALKS

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HAMPSTEAD TOUR - C18th SPA VILLAGE: meet Hampstead Tube, 2pm, £2.75.



Stagecraftsman: Ingmar Bergman (above left) and a scene from Miss Julie, featuring Peter Stormare and Marie Goranzon

The tip of the twice-Berg

To the world outside Sweden, Ingmar Bergman is one of the poetic geniuses of the cinema, but the Swedes are fortunate in knowing him also as a genius of the stage, an innovative theatre director stretching back to his student days in the early 1940s.

acclaimed at last year's Edinburgh Festival. Marie Goranzon returns as Julie, her face disfigured by the scar left by her fiancé's whip - an incident Strindberg cut from the original manuscript - and with Peter Stormare playing her father's valet, Jean.

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SATURDAY

TELEVISION AND RADIO

SUNDAY

Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

CHOICE

Dressed, invariably, in a felt hat and fisherman's jerkin, Joseph Beuys (BBC2, 7.50pm) became an emblematic figure of the post-war German counterculture...

Peter Waymark



Joseph Beuys: Omnibus tells the life story of the German sculptor and politician on BBC2, 7.50pm



Pianist Paderewski and dictator Pilsudski: The Struggles for Poland begins on Channel 4, at 7.15pm

CHOICE

It has been the fate of Poland to be the nut in the nutcracker, forever squeezed, and often crushed, by its powerful neighbours...

P.W.

BBC1

- 6.45 Open University, Until 8.30
8.30 Family-Ness, (r) 8.35
8.55 The World of the Three Musketeers, (r) 9.00

BBC2

- 6.50 Open University, Until 8.30
6.55 Chess Classic, Nigel Short plays Viktor Korchnoi in the OTRF tournament in Brussels.

ITV/LONDON

- 6.55 TV-am introduced by Richard Keys, Weather at 6.55 news at 7.00.
7.30 The Wide Awake Club includes details of this year's Song For Christmas competition...

CHANNEL 4

- 9.25 Pets In Particular, (r) 9.50 Moneyspinner, (r) 10.20 The Living Body, Part 20 (r) 10.45

BBC1

- 6.45 Open University, Until 8.30
6.55 Play School 9.15
Umbrella, Religious series for the young.

BBC2

- 6.50 Open University: Housing and the Market
7.40 17th-century England: Appleton House

ITV/LONDON

- 6.55 TV-am
6.55 David Frost on Sunday
9.25 Wake Up London

CHANNEL 4

- 9.25 Sarah, Episode one of a new four-part drama serial from Pakistan.
10.00 Banding Film Election Special: Electoral issues from a black and Asian viewpoint.

Radio 1

MF (medium wave), Stereo on VHF (see below)
News on the hour until 12.30 pm, then at 2.00, 3.30, 5.00, 7.30, 9.30 and 12.00 midnight

Radio 2

MF (medium wave), Stereo on VHF (see Radio 1)
News on the hour until 1.00 pm, then at 3.00, 6.00, 7.00 and hourly from 10.00. Cricket Scores at 7.30

World Service

6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Meridian 7.00 News
7.30 Ten Four News 7.30 From Our Own Correspondents 7.50 News 8.00

Radio 3

MF (medium wave), Stereo on VHF (see below)
News on the half-hour until 11.30 am, then at 2.30, 3.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 and 12.00 midnight

Radio 4

MF (medium wave), Stereo on VHF (see below)
News on the hour (except 12.00) and 12.00

Radio 5

MF (medium wave), Stereo on VHF (see below)
News on the hour (except 12.00) and 12.00

World Service

6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Jazz 7.00 News 7.00
Twenty-Four Hours 7.30 From Our Own Correspondents 7.50 News 8.00

World Service

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Twenty-Four Hours 7.30 From Our Own Correspondents 7.50 News 8.00

Radio 6

MF (medium wave), Stereo on VHF (see below)
News on the hour (except 12.00) and 12.00

Radio 7

MF (medium wave), Stereo on VHF (see below)
News on the hour (except 12.00) and 12.00

Radio 8

MF (medium wave), Stereo on VHF (see below)
News on the hour (except 12.00) and 12.00

Regional TV: on facing page

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 893kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF-90: 92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz/1500m; VHF-92-95; LBC: 1152kHz/261m; VHF-97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF-95.8; BBC Radio London: 1148kHz/206m; VHF-94.9; World Service: MF 648kHz/463m.

STOCK MARKET

Equities recover with rise of £2bn

By Geoffrey Foster

A traumatic week for the stock market ended on a much calmer note yesterday when dealers heaved a huge sigh of relief as a couple of the latest opinion polls put the Conservatives well on course for an overwhelming victory in next week's general election.

Market-makers, who have had their nerves shattered this week by rumour and counter-rumour about a dwindling Conservative lead and the possibility of a hung Parliament, quickly marked prices higher at the outset on the Marplan and Harris polls.

Ensuing support was fairly unconvincing, but sufficient enough to help the FT 30-share index rally by 3.3 points to 1,729.9 and the broader FT-SE 100 recover by 14.6 points to 2,228.8, after 2,234.0. The gain in equity values was £2 billion and brought the total since the election was called to £29.69 billion.

Dealers were content to hold off before the expected batch of weekend opinion polls, but, overall, the mood remains bullish for the outcome of the election. Afterwards, it is hoped that overseas buyers will rush in and acquire shares in top-quality British companies.

Shares of Barry Wehmiller, the manufacturer of packaging equipment, which were heavily oversubscribed when offered for sale by Hill Samuel, got off to the expected flying start. Helped by the surrounding calmer equity trend, they opened at 170p - compared with the offer-for-sale price of 135p - and closed at 169p, making a premium of 34p.

Bid speculation in Bejam, the frozen food retailer, which had cooled recently following the news of the sale by Mr John Apthorp, the chairman, of a block of 200,000 shares in the company, was aroused by details yesterday of a board reshuffle.

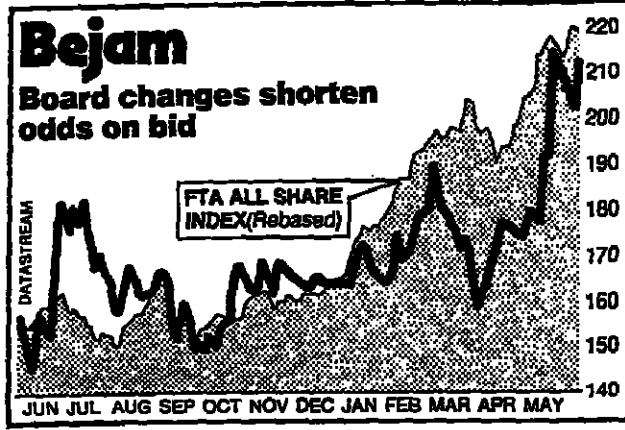
The changes, which see Mr Apthorp moving to the post of a non-executive chairman, were immediately interpreted by dealers as being the prelude to a bid for the company and buyers quickly pushed the shares up to 213p at one stage.

The latest survey by Capel-Care Myers, the broker, of British Telecom's international division rates the shares a "buy". Mr John Clarke, an analyst, expects figures this month to show pretax profits up from £1.83 billion to £2.06 billion, with £2.25 billion next year.

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Bejam Board changes shorten odds on bid

Meanwhile, the suggestion that Coles Myer, the Australian department store group, is to bid for ASDA-MFI prompted County NatWest to point out that Coles Myer is on a similar rating to the British company and capitalized at about two-thirds of its value.

Therefore, it would find it difficult to raise the finance to bid and it is unlikely that it would seek to do so.

Pacific Sales Organisation, an importer and distributor of small leather goods from China, which is quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market, continued to confound City experts, rising by a further 20p to 365p, after 370p.

The shares have now soared from about the 60p level since a third of the company's shares changed hands in March when a concert party, including Mr Tony Berry of Blue Arrow and Messrs David Ellingham and Peter James of the WSL Holdings travel group, bought a 24.4 per cent holding in the company from Mr Leo Kalisch, the ex-chairman, at 45p a share.

Persistent speculative buying of the shares has been accompanied by reports of a "shell" operation, but the main stimulus has been the presence of Mr Berry behind the scenes and hopes are high that his Midas touch will work again in helping the business to grow organically and through acquisition.

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch consumer products and food group, leapt by more than a cent, closing 113p higher at £31.80 after details of the sale of its US-based Stauffer Chemical business to ICI in a deal worth more than £1 billion.

County NatWest believes that the current rating of the group against the food retailing sector is too high and it also completely dismisses stories concerning the possible sale of the MFI business to Ladbroke or anyone else.

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WALL STREET

Dow slips as investors remain on sidelines

New York (Agencies) - Shares inched lower in early trading yesterday and investors remained hesitant about entering the market as a 6.3 per cent May unemployment rate - unchanged from April - provided little encouragement about the economy. One trader commented: "Employment was a poor signal and people just don't know what is going to come out of next week's Venice summit that will affect this market."

The Dow Jones industrial average fell by 11.08 to 2,316.00. Rising shares and declining ones were about evenly matched on 19 million shares traded. Allgas rose by 2 1/2% to 10 1/2%. Airlines were modestly higher in active trading. United's pilots rejected a new plan for buying the airline.

On Thursday, the Dow average closed 16.39 up at 2,337.08.

BankAmerica Corporation is reconsidering its loan-loss reserves and will decide in the next two weeks whether they need to be increased. Mr Bob Frick, the head of the bank's world banking group, said in Vienna.

Table with columns for various stock indices and prices, including Dow Jones, S&P 500, and various individual stocks like Amgen, Amgen, Amgen, etc.

Table titled 'LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES' showing various futures contracts like Three Month Sterling, Three Month Eurodollar, etc.

Table titled 'ALPHA STOCKS' listing various companies and their stock prices.

Table titled 'RECENT ISSUES' listing various companies and their recent issues.

Table titled 'TRADITIONAL OPTIONS' listing various options contracts.

Table titled 'LONDON TRADED OPTIONS' listing various options traded in London.

Table titled 'MONEY & GOLD' listing various money and gold market data.

Table titled 'EURO MONEY DEPOSITS' listing various Euro money deposit rates.

Table titled 'TREASURY BILLS' listing various Treasury bill rates.

Table titled 'BULLION' listing various bullion market data.

then pays \$1.05m for metal fastener

Berlin Pro raise £3

Anglo through

fuels m

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table titled 'STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES' showing exchange rates for various currencies.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Table showing other sterling rates for various currencies like Argentina, Australia, etc.

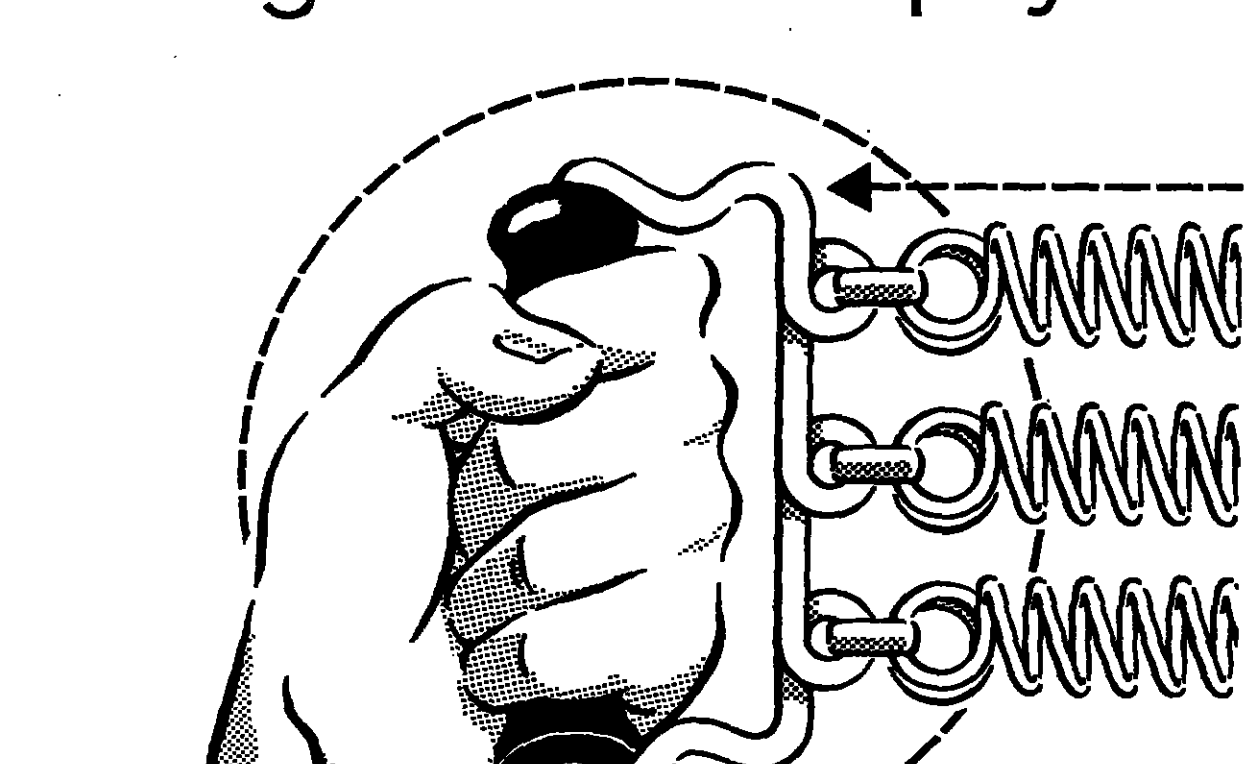
LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table showing London financial futures for various contracts like Three Month Sterling, etc.

US Treasury Bond

Table showing US Treasury bond rates for various maturities.

A better prospect for higher rate tax payers.



Advertisement for Charterhouse Business Expansion Fund, detailing investment opportunities, tax benefits, and contact information.

Advertisement for Charterhouse Business Expansion Fund, detailing investment opportunities, tax benefits, and contact information.

Arlen pays £1.05m for metal fastener

By Michael Tate
The reconstruction of Arlen, the electrical accessories group, gathers pace with the £1.05 million acquisition of Centrepiece Engineering, a Birmingham metal fastener business. The price depends on Centrepiece making profits of not less than £350,000 in the year to end-August 1987.

Arlen is raising £2.4 million through a conditional placing of new shares with investment institutions at 130p each. Existing shareholders will have the opportunity to apply for these new shares on the basis of one for every five held.

The rest of the money will be used for further acquisition opportunities, said Mr Leslie Hancock, chairman and chief executive of Arlen, yesterday. He estimated profits for the year to end-March at not less than £1.4 million, and expects to recommend a final dividend of 1.5p a share, making 2p net for the year. Mr Hancock, who moved in at Arlen after the company ran up losses in the early 1980s, says the group's progress continues to be most encouraging. The traditional electrical business has shown a considerable increase in profits in the past year, and the recently acquired Columbia electronic engineering companies is performing well.

NatWest chief calls for more R&D spending

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent
Lord Boardman, chairman of National Westminster Bank, yesterday called on British manufacturing industry to invest more in research and development, and told industrialists that for real investment opportunities there was no shortage of funds.



Boardman: 'good idea on its own is not good enough'

In a rebuttal of industry's attacks on the City for its alleged failure to back long-term investment projects, Lord Boardman said the financial institutions had supported Britain's massive oil and gas and aircraft developments. The banks were looking for realistic business opportunities, which in turn became real leading opportunities. "A good idea on its own is not good enough," he said.

With the strength of the banks behind the securities market at home and abroad, the so-called equity gap was closing at both ends of the market, he added.

Lord Boardman, speaking in London after presenting the 1986 NatWest Engineering Marketing Awards, said the tide had turned and the British economy was now in good

"But industry cannot succeed alone. It is up to government to give our manufacturing industry the right climate for success."
Full membership of the European Monetary System would be helpful, he said, and Government should continue to lift red tape. "Simplifying the tax system would allow industry to spend more time on production, and less on administration and dealing with the VAT man. This is particularly important for small businesses, the seedcorn for the future."

The awards, which aim to encourage improved marketing techniques and development of innovative schemes, provide the winners with a cruise or transatlantic voyage for two on the QE2.

The winners were Crosfield Electronics of Hemel Hempstead (large firms category) the printing machinery subsidiary of the De La Rue group, RHP Precision of Newark, Nottinghamshire (medium), a precision bearing maker, and Spheric Engineering of Crawley, West Sussex (small), a producer of high precision tungsten carbide balls.

Clegg 'has 87.9% of Stockley shares'

By Joe Joseph
Mountleigh, the fast-growing property trading and investment group led by Mr Tony Clegg, has declared its £36.3 million bid for Stockley unconditional after receiving acceptances for 144.69 million ordinary shares, representing 58.4 per cent of Stockley.

In addition to the 71 million shares bought from European Ferris, Mountleigh now commands 87.9 per cent of Stockley's issued share capital and a property portfolio that includes the Stockley Park business complex under construction at Heathrow, and interests in two large sites in the City of London - Beaufort House and Paternoster Square.

The deal also makes Mountleigh the fourth-biggest property company in Britain, although Mr Clegg would like to see it in top place.

Mr Clegg, who has established a reputation as the "jobber" of the property market, has said he will act swiftly to realize the value of his acquisition by trading out a large part of it. Any property solely owned by Stockley are likely to be put up for sale. The ordinary offer will remain open until further notice, and the loan note alternative will be available until June 18, but the 135p cash alternative has closed.

Two easy options for a stock market débâcle

In most City boardrooms, the champagne is on ice in anticipation of a Tory victory on Thursday. Save for an occasional aberration, the message of the opinion polls is that the Conservative vote is holding firm above the crucial 40 per cent level. The prospect of another four or five years of sound economic management would complete the rehabilitation of Britain as a place for the rest of the world to invest. The stock market could go, perhaps, 10 per cent higher, helped by overseas buying.

But the wise always hedge their bets. If Thursday produces anything but an outright majority for a third Thatcher administration, the loss of investor confidence and the inevitable and swift withdrawal of substantial foreign investment funds from London would cause a bloodbath in the City. How far would the market fall?

The FT-SE 100 index has risen with scarcely a break from below 1,700 at the start of the year to 2,228.8 at the close of trading on Friday, a rise of roughly a third. There is little to suppose that most or indeed all of that gain would not be wiped out if a Labour resurgence next week proves the pollsters wrong.

The pain would be most severe among the large British companies with sizeable international activities, such as ICI and Glaxo, where overseas interest

has been strongest in the past few months. The privatization stocks such as British Telecom, British Gas and British Airways would also be in the firing line. Though Labour has balked at spelling out details in its manifesto, some form of re-nationalization is a formality.

The traded option market currently offers the cheapest and most effective way of saving something from the ashes if the unexpected occurs. Two short-term option contracts of the FT-SE 100 Put class in particular are worth considering, the June 2,100's and the June 2,000's. The first was on offer at 35p yesterday, effectively giving the right to "sell" the FT-SE index at a level of 2,100. Should the index remain above the 2,100 level, the 35p premium is worthless. Nevertheless, the gearing is formidable. If the FT-SE dropped to the January level of 1,700, the option would be worth 400p or thereabouts.

The June 2,000 contract, priced at 16p, gives the right to sell the index at 2,000. For a modest premium, you run the risk that the FT-SE remains above 2,000, in which case the purchase has no value. The contract would expire and the premium would be lost. However, the contract would become worth 300p, ignoring dealing costs, if the FT-SE dropped to 1,700. *Faites vos jeux.*

ICI weeds Unilever's fields

The multinational merry-go-round continues. Last December, Unilever, having been cast as the villain in a vain bid for Richardson-Vicks, was transmogrified into a generous white knight in the battle for Chesebrough-Pond's, paying dear - \$3.1 billion (£1.9 billion) - to boost its position in the American toiletries league.

The logic of that deal depended on Unilever making a good sale of Chesebrough's illogical diversifications into chemicals. Yesterday, it did just that. It sold Stauffer Chemical to its Thameside neighbour, ICI, for a staggering £1 billion plus, recouping more than half its purchase cost at one go, with a further \$100 million under its belt and more to come from peripheral activities.

In doing so, Unilever has put Denys Henderson, ICI's new chairman, on precisely the same spot. He has paid \$1.7 billion (not counting \$230 million of Stauffer group debt) for a ragbag of \$1.3 billion of sales, \$113 million profit and net book assets of \$500 million. Again, ICI is really only interested in \$450 million of this turnover contributed by agriculturals, which provide nearly half the profit.

The financial virtues of the deal therefore depend on ICI converting inquiries made about some of these businesses into sufficient sales to recoup more than half its purchase price.

The most telling insight into the strategy of the new ICI, however, is provided by the list of Stauffer businesses it wants to sell. Apart from some interesting speciality chemicals, these include soda ash and sulphuric acid - traditional, basic ICI activities. But ICI does not want more of the same from Stauffer, emphasizing its selective expansion aimed at establishing stronger world market positions in products sold to end users.

Evidently Mr Henderson, continuing the strategy established by Sir John Harvey-Jones, has been pleased so far with the apparently costly \$580 million purchase of Glidden paints from Hanson Trust, which gave ICI both a strong world market position in paints and the base for product research and development on the scale needed to stay ahead. The Stauffer purchase looks based on the same considerations.

To some extent the purchase is defensive. Last year was the second poor one in a row for the industry, with ICI's agrochemical products producing only £23 million trading profit on \$800 million of sales, as farm over-production was cut back in the US and Europe. But the biggest US competitors have merged their interests and ICI has now placed its way back from 11th to fourth place in the US market and from sixth to third world-wide. But food is here to stay and so is ICI.

Merlin Properties to raise £37.8m

By Our City Staff
Merlin International Properties, the Isle of Man property company which was admitted to the Stock Exchange a year ago, is raising £37.8 million through a rights issue to finance its substantial international expansion plans.

Merlin, under yesterday's financing package, will issue 6 million ordinary shares at 130p and 30 million convertible preference shares at 100p. They will be offered in parcels of one ordinary and five preference shares on the basis of two parcels for every five ordinary shares now held. Merlin's directors have renounced their entitlements to the rights issue.

Mr Peterjevans, the head of Abbegate, will become Merlin's chief executive for Britain and Europe after selling his company in return for £2 million of new Merlin ordinary shares and a wedge of convertible debentures.

Dealings in Merlin's shares have been suspended since mid-May after their price jumped 25p in one day.

Meggitt to pay £13m for BAJ

By Our City Staff
Meggitt Holdings, the specialist engineering group which last September spent £85 million to buy rival engineer Bestobell, is paying about £13 million in shares for BAJ Holdings, which designs, manufactures and supplies defence and aerospace products.

BAJ, formerly known as BAJ Vickers, was the subject of a management buyout from Vickers in 1985. Last year it made pretax profits of £1.2 million.

Meggitt is financing the purchase by issuing BAJ's managers and certain institutional shareholders with 7.12 million new ordinary shares in Meggitt. Almost half of these are being placed by N M Rothschild, the merchant bank, with institutional shareholders at 158p a share.

The industrial conglomerate BTR, a major shareholder in Meggitt, has agreed to take 1.5 million of the new shares in the placing.

Rotunda agrees to £14.2m Scapa bid

By Ray Heath
Less than seven months after its shares were placed on the USM at 95p each, Rotunda, the adhesive tapes group, has agreed to a 195p offer from Scapa Group, the paper machinery and industrial materials manufacturer.

The bid, which is in cash with a loan stock option, values Rotunda at around £14.2 million, and has been accepted by directors of the company and other shareholders who own 46 per cent of the capital.

Rotunda specializes in adhesive tapes which are used in a wide range of industrial applications, and the company supplies cables manufacturers and the power distribution and telecommunication markets.

Sales in the year to end-December were £11.3 million and profits were about £1 million.

Scapa said yesterday that Rotunda would slot in with its coated textile products divisions, including Lindsay and William which specializes in industrial tapes and was taken over in 1986.

Coloroll sells division

By Our City Staff
Coloroll, the furnishings and china group, is selling its packaging division to the fast-growing St Ives printing group for £5.6 million.

Coloroll Packaging made profits of £685,000 on turnover of £4 million in its most recent financial year and had net assets of £1.06 million.

Mr John Ashcroft, Coloroll chairman, has been developing the group as a designer and manufacturer in the home fashion market. He said: "The

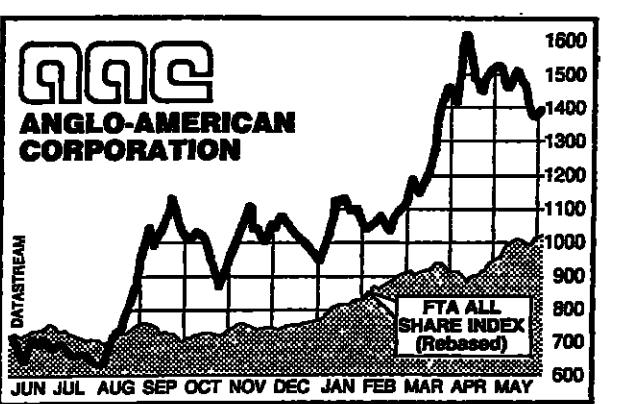
Anglo American still shines through S African gloom

Politics may still cloud any share with a South African connection but Anglo American Corporation remains a treasure house in the South African economy. It offers a stake in gold, platinum, diamonds, base metals and a host of industrial interests and has substantial financial muscle in its own right.

March year-end results showed record highs - pretax profit was R1.54 billion (£469.5 million) against R1.3 billion and the final dividend increased by 25 per cent to 162.5 cents a share, making 225 cents (180 cents) for the year. Assuming fair winds this year, there seems little reason why Anglo's results should not improve again.

Anglo is not immune from sanctions threats against South Africa, but is at least better placed than most because of its dominant interests in gold, platinum and diamonds. Gold remains a foundation stone with the average gold price at \$368 last year against \$317 and 22 per cent up in rand terms at R845 an ounce. The rand figure has increased further this year to R900 an ounce so the group is still moving.

Last year was not, however, without its problems. Difficulties for the coal industry saw lower earnings from the Amcoal subsidiary, which explains why net trading income eased from R446



million to R423 million. Net income from investments was, by contrast, again strong - improving from R752 million to R943 million - while sharply higher Johannesburg share prices at balance sheet date saw the market value of investments jump from R15.4 billion to R23.6 billion.

Anglo American trades at an estimated 35 per cent discount to net worth at current share prices. There are two potential clouds on the horizon. One is the outcome of negotiations for gold miners' pay - the white union accepted a 15 per cent pay rise yesterday and the black union is still pressing for a 35 per cent increase - and its impact on labour costs. The other is the imminent report of the Margo Commission on tax.

A percentage of turnover is paid by the franchisee for the use of a group property. This

system avoids the niggly problems of running lots of small shops but enables Tie Rack to benefit from economies of scale when sourcing.

There are now 78 outlets run on this basis in Britain and 20 more under Tie Rack's direct control.

But the most exciting prospects are overseas, where there are now 18 shops, some under direct control, others on a master franchise.

The early quality problems which were a feature of Tie Rack's products have been solved and the range is now broader.

The move into accessories and women's goods has also been a significant factor in moving the business forward. A decreasing proportion of the profit now comes from ties.

As there is no forecast it is hard to feel wholly relaxed on fundamentals about the 31.5 times historic p/e ratio, even if profits did rise last year from £12,000 to £1.8 million. The company is still young and could prove less sure footed than its record suggests.

But the management, not surprisingly, is bullish and appears happy with the suggestion that the rate of growth can continue. Importantly, none of the existing shareholders is selling shares.

Pict fuels market on North Sea talk

Gene are the days when the merest whiff of an oil discovery was enough to bounce the share prices of quite big companies into the upper atmosphere.

We have been told so often that the North Sea is not commercial if the oil price stays at \$18 a barrel that it is surprising nowadays to see any market reaction at all to an oil find.

The share price of Pict Petroleum, however, rose on Wednesday from 40p to settle at about 58p on rumours that it had a new oil find on North Sea Block 15/21.

It is early days yet but the well appears to have encountered significant oil and it is believed that an extensive testing programme is planned.

Some analysts are already calculating that this find could be as big as Pict's two sister finds on the block, Rob Roy and Ivanhoe, combined. They contain 88 million barrels between them.

It is not usually possible to tell whether a field will be commercial on the basis of a single well. But if it is and it has, for example, 50 million to 100 million barrels of oil, it

could be worth between 10p and 25p, at today's prices with some modest escalation, to Pict which has a 3.75 per cent interest.

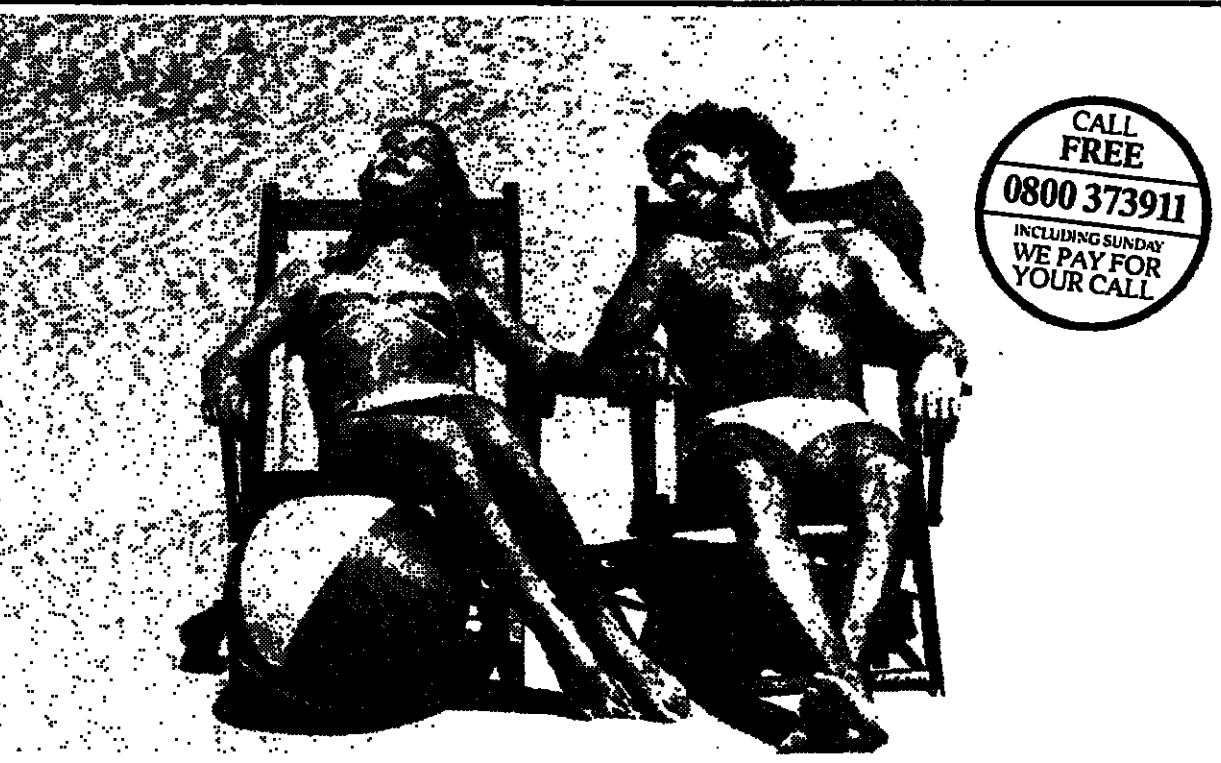
It could be developed fairly quickly, if commercially viable, as Amerada Hess, the operator, which owns 42 per cent of Pict, has shown itself impatient to find ways of supplementing its declining North Sea production profile. It could also be relatively cheap to develop with sub-sea completions linked into the Rob Roy and Ivanhoe infrastructure.

Pict, despite the recent

share price rise, still looks like one of the less expensive stocks in its sector. Its price is, at the low end of the range of asset value estimates of between 55p and 100p.

Perhaps the market remains unimpressed with a company which, since its formation more than 15 years ago, is still only capitalized at under \$15 million and trailing a long way behind fellow independents.

The obverse is that, being so small, Pict is more geared to discoveries in its acreage in the southern gas sector, and onshore.



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| 2000 | 71.70 | 3180.00 | 50.14 | 2188.40 |
| 3000 | 107.55 | 4770.00 | 75.21 | 3282.60 |
| 4000 | 143.41 | 6360.00 | 100.28 | 4376.80 |
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Society: _____
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Purpose of Loan: _____

YOUR WORK
Employers Name and Address: _____
Occupation: _____
Number of years service: _____
Partner's Work: _____
Employers Name and Address: _____
Occupation: _____
Number of years service: _____
Annual Income £: _____
Partner's Income £: _____
(Proof of income must be provided)

Name and Address of Second Mortgage: _____
Amount of Mortgage outstanding: _____
Date property purchased: _____
Price paid for property: _____
Estimated value of property: _____
I/We do not occupy premises: _____

1. Tel. No. (Day) (City) (Eve) (City) _____
2. Name: _____
3. Surname: _____
4. Forename(s): _____
5. Surname (Partner): _____
6. Forename(s): _____
7. Address of Property offered as security: _____
8. Post Code: _____
9. I, the Lloyds Bowmaker, confirm that all information shown above is accurate and agree that it shall form the basis of any loan agreement. If the authorisation to take up my references is required, I hereby authorise you or your agents to inspect the register of our title at H.M. Land Registry.
Signed: _____
Signed (Partner): _____
Date: _____

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table containing various unit trust information, including fund names, managers, and performance metrics. Columns include Bid, Offer, Change, and Yield.

Table containing financial data for various commodities, metals, and livestock. Includes sections for COMMODITIES, LONDON METAL EXCHANGE, COPPER GRADE A, and LONDON LIVESTOCK.

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading. Ex dividend, Cum dividend, etc. Ex any two or more of above, etc.

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom center of the page.

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

Table with 5 columns: No., Company, Group, Gains or loss, Dividend. Lists various companies like Petrochem, Edlow, Watercroft, etc.

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend table with columns for Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat, and a Total column.

BRITISH FUNDS

Table listing various British funds with columns for High/Low Stock, Price, Change, and % P/E.

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

Table listing short-term investments with columns for No., Term, Rate, and % P/E.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Table listing medium-term investments with columns for No., Term, Rate, and % P/E.

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Table listing long-term investments with columns for No., Term, Rate, and % P/E.

UNDATED

Table listing undated investments with columns for No., Term, Rate, and % P/E.

INDEX-LINKED

Table listing index-linked investments with columns for No., Term, Rate, and % P/E.

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

Table listing bank discount rates with columns for No., Term, Rate, and % P/E.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Shares regain confidence

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted) ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on Monday. Dealings end June 12. Contango day June 15. Settlement day June 22. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are recorded at 5pm. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close and may differ from changes calculated by comparing 5pm prices, published the previous day. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 26)

BREWERIES table listing companies like Asahi, Beck's, etc.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS table listing companies like Abey, Amec, etc.

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS table listing companies like ICI, etc.

CINEMAS AND TV table listing companies like British Sky, etc.

DRAPERY AND STORES table listing companies like Debenhams, etc.

HOTELS AND CATERERS table listing companies like Whitbread, etc.

INDUSTRIALS A-D table listing companies like Anglo, etc.

INDUSTRIALS E-K table listing companies like Anglo, etc.

INDUSTRIALS L-R table listing companies like Anglo, etc.

INDUSTRIALS S-Z table listing companies like Anglo, etc.

FINANCE AND LAND table listing companies like Anglo, etc.

FOODS table listing companies like Anglo, etc.

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT table listing companies like Anglo, etc.

SHIPPING table listing companies like Anglo, etc.

SHOES AND LEATHER table listing companies like Anglo, etc.

TEXTILES table listing companies like Anglo, etc.

TOBACCO table listing companies like Anglo, etc.

Table listing companies in the Breweries sector.

Table listing companies in the Buildings and Roads sector.

Table listing companies in the Chemicals and Plastics sector.

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Table listing companies in the Drapery and Stores sector.

Table listing companies in the Hotels and Caterers sector.

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Table listing companies in the Foods sector.

Table listing companies in the Motors and Aircraft sector.

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Portfolio Gold

DAILY DIVIDEND £8,000. WEEKLY DIVIDEND £8,000. Claims required for +48 points. Claims required for +187 points. Claimants should ring 0254-53272.

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© Ex dividend a Ex sb Forecast dividend a Interest payment receipt. Price at suspension of Dividend field exclude a special payment a Pre-merger figures a Forecast earnings a Ex other a Ex rights a Ex scrip or share split a Tax-free ... No significant data.

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FAMILY MONEY / INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

Table showing interest rates for various banks and products, including Deposit A/c, Building Societies, and Money Funds.

BANKS

Table listing interest rates for various banks such as Barclays, National Westminster, and Midland.

BUILDING SOCIETIES

Table showing interest rates for building societies like Aitken Home Monthly Income and Allied Arab HICA.

MONEY FUNDS

Table listing interest rates for various money funds including Fidelity and Abbey Unit Trusts.

NATIONAL SAVINGS

Table showing interest rates for national savings products like Income Bond and Deposit Bond.

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

Table listing interest rates for guaranteed income bonds from FPS and other providers.

LOCAL AUTHORITY TOWN HALL BONDS

Table showing interest rates for local authority town hall bonds in various locations.

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS

Table listing interest rates for foreign currency deposits in US Dollar, Yen, and Swiss Franc.

THIS WEEK

KEY RATES

Table showing key rates including Retail Prices Index, Mortgage rate, Bank base rate, and Personal loan rate.

FUND OFFERS

Table listing fund offers from Dumenil, GT American Special Situations, and Fidelity.

BASE LENDING RATES

Table showing base lending rates for various banks and financial institutions.

UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

Large table listing unit-linked insurance investments across various categories like Cash, Bonds, and Stocks, with columns for Bid, Offer, and Change.

connected glossy

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading

Edited by Peter Gartland

FAMILY MONEY/1

THIS WEEK

- Investing in Australia 1
- Barclays' Connect card 1
- Slow-moving PEPs 2
- Monthly unit trust performances 3
- Additional DHSS benefits 4
- Your tax coding 5
- Buying property in Austria 6
- Secondary trading in mortgages 6

Last chance for British Gas

Next Tuesday at 3pm is the deadline for receipt of the second instalment of 45p a share on British Gas shares. If you have not yet paid, you must do so immediately - otherwise you could lose your rights to shares, dividends and incentives such as vouchers and bonus shares. Shareholders should use first-class post to send the entire payment notice and payment to the bank whose address is on the back of the notice form. If you have not received a payment notice, call the British Gas Share Enquiry Line on 0272 294188 immediately. Lines are open during the weekend.

S & P offer is extended

The fixed offer price of 50p a unit on Save & Prosper's new American Smaller Companies Unit Trust officially ended at close of business yesterday. But S & P has extended the offer to include today and tomorrow. Investors can call S & P's Moneyline number on 0800 282 101.

Drivers' guide

The specialist tax publishers Tolleys have brought out their *Company Car Tax Guide 1987-88*, which tells employees how to reduce or even eliminate income tax paid on a company car and why it may not always be wise to have free petrol for private use. The car tax guide is available from W.H. Smith, Menzies and other bookshops at £4.25.

£25m for loans

Sun Alliance has launched a fixed-rate mortgage in conjunction with First Mortgage Securities Ltd. The current rate is 10 per cent fixed for two years, and up to £25 million is available.

Connect gets a glossy start

Barclays Bank's long awaited Connect debit card was ushered into circulation this week to the sound of triumphant music and the flashing of lasers, as the bank mounted a spectacle show for the benefit of the Press. Barclays' staid executives did not exactly start breakdancing on stage as they announced the new product, but they were clearly fairly pleased with themselves.

They have more or less weathered the damaging dispute with retailers that had most main shop chains refusing to accept the card just a week before the launch.

By this week Barclays could claim that around half the 260,000 retail outlets in the Visa card system in Britain would accept the new card. Many of the country's largest chains, such as Burton, Boots and Woolworth have reached agreement, and further agreements are on the way.

But as the sound effects died away and the fake mist added to the ceiling at the end of the launch presentation, it was not blindingly clear what the benefit to the consumer really was.

Connect is billed by Barclays as "the cheque you don't have to write", and for anyone who has a pathological hatred of cheques the card has obvious advantages. It is quicker to use than a cheque and does not need the elaborate confirmation rituals often big corded to cheques in big stores. But most people will probably need to be convinced that Connect really is a great leap forward for mankind.

Still on the convenience question, the card can be used to make payments by telephone, which cannot - obviously - be done with cheques. It can also be used in the five million Visa outlets overseas, a far wider reach than most bank cheques and possibly even more convenient than travellers' cheques in many situations.

Among the biggest advantages is that the card has no £50 limit, as cheques do. So

Sideways move Down Under

Today sees the launch of a new unit trust, which joins the small, and not always select, band of funds investing in Australia.

PETER GARTLAND reports

The Kangaroo Trust from the Thornton Investment Group is the latest addition to a batch of fewer than 20 Australian unit trusts available to UK investors out of a total of more than 1,000 funds.

Australia is, of course, a relatively small market. In total capitalization terms it ranks number nine in the world behind Switzerland and The Netherlands. But it does boast an increasing number of internationally known companies such as the Bond Corporation, Elders DXL and News Corporation.

It is the shares of such companies, along with gold producers and mining companies, that unit trust fund managers favour for their investors' money.

But the lack of UK investor interest in "the lucky country" stems more from poor performance than from actual size.

The June edition of the financial magazine *Money Management* shows that a £1,000 investment in the top-performing Australian fund during the past five years would have grown to £2,285, after all buying and selling expenses. Compare this with returns of £6,419 in the top-performing Japanese fund, £5,932 from Europe and £5,728 from the UK, and you begin to get the picture.

So why should investors even consider Australia?

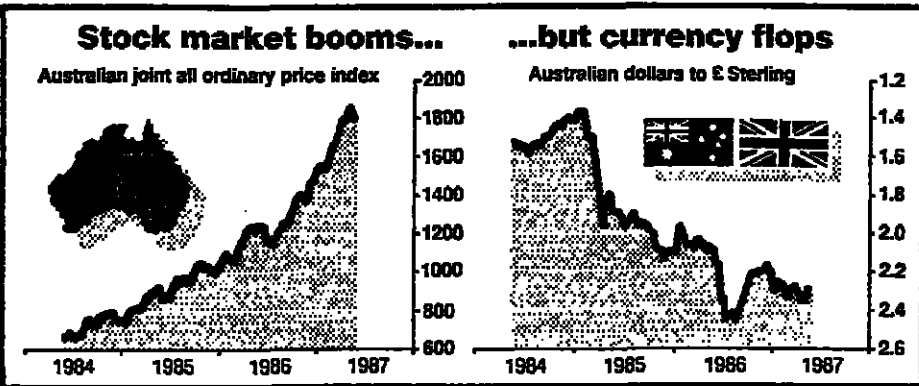
Thornton's fund manager Peter Everington says Australia demands a place in a diversified portfolio because it represents a politically stable investment in the fast-growing Pacific region.

Mr Everington points to the Australian market's continuing rise and says the current bull market will continue.

That sounds fine and, as our first graph shows, the Australian stock market has indeed gone up by leaps and bounds in the past three years, just about trebling in value.

The problem has been the currency. Back in 1984 £1 would have bought you around A\$1.5. Now it will buy you approximately A\$2.3 and it has been higher. That is good news for UK residents visiting Australia but bad news for investors.

What it means effectively is that in 1984 £1 would have bought you A\$1.5 of investment. But if you cash your stake in now you have to pay A\$2.3 to re-convert to £1 sterling. In other words the large stock market gains in



Australia have been severely curtailed for UK investors by the currency effect.

Dylan Evans of Target Fund Managers, feels there is not much further downward slide left in the currency, but probably not much strengthening either.

Just 12 months ago Target's Australian fund was down among the dead men of unit trust performers. Now it has pulled itself right back and, according to Opal Statistics, has notched up a 70.5 per cent gain since June 1986.

Mr Evans says his fund has benefited from the strong gold run in recent months but he is planning to take profits from

this sector and reinvest the fund money in export-oriented industrials that will benefit from the continuation of a weak Australian dollar.

But not everyone is so relaxed about the Australian market. Barry Bateman, managing director of Fidelity Investment Services, says the economy is far from healthy. He points to high inflation, high interest rates and a huge overseas debt problem, and he is not convinced that the present government has got a grip on the unions. "Australia has the British disease of the 1970s," says Mr Bateman.

The unit trust adviser Stephen Lansdown says he has never been a fan of Australia. Although the market may

have done well in the past six months, this is an odd flash in a volatile pan, he says. It is possible to make money in the Australian market but it is also possible to get your fingers burned.

Mr Lansdown sees no reason to take unnecessary risks at a time when there are good markets nearer to home.

Jamie Berry is another adviser who does not favour investment in Australia. He sees it as a market that will go in and out of fashion in short bursts, and would prefer his clients' exposure to be through a general Far East fund in which the managers have the ability to switch in and out of Australia as market conditions dictate.

But if the investment managers are divided on Australia's stock market and economic prospects there is also great political uncertainty just around the corner. Australians will be going to the polls on July 11 as the Prime Minister Bob Hawke tries to win a third successive term of office for his ruling Labor Party.

Mr Hawke has called the general election eight months sooner than he needed to and many observers regard the move as opportunist politics designed to take advantage of the opposition parties' disarray.

David Hutchins, Australian market specialist at the giant M & G unit trust group, says Mr Hawke is one of the most popular Australian prime ministers ever but his party's re-election is far from being a foregone conclusion.

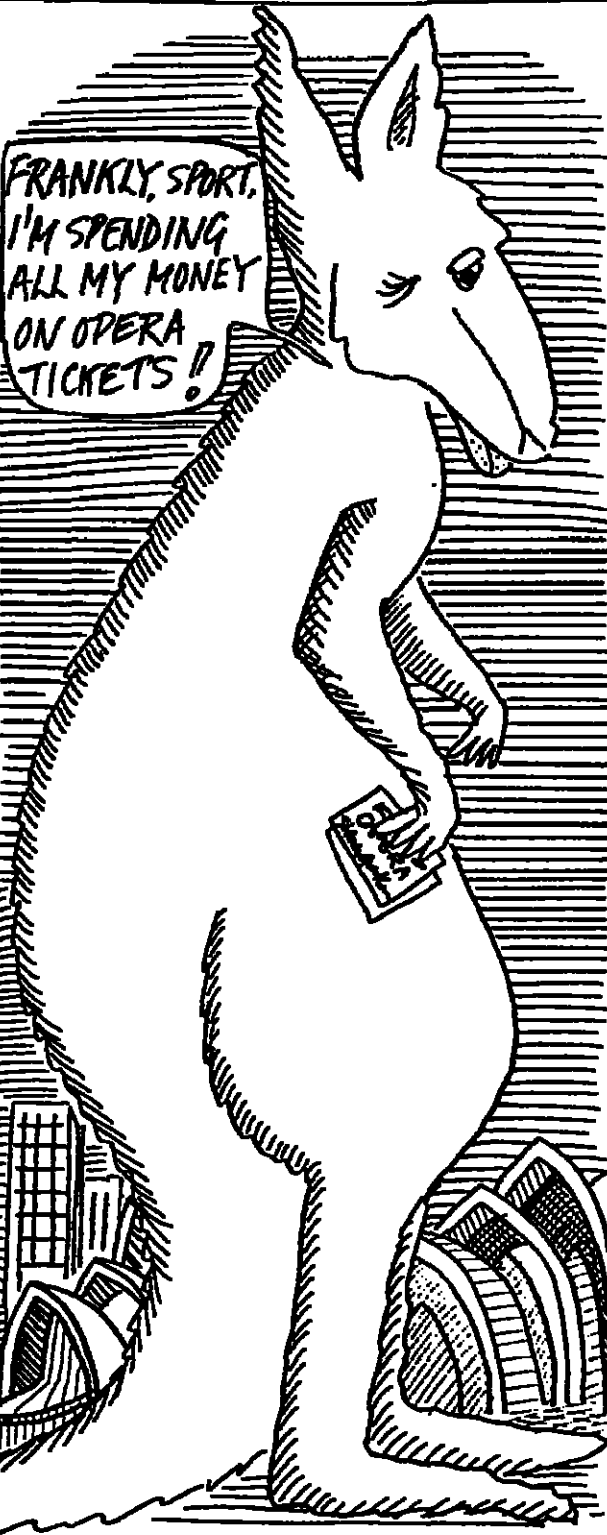
It needs only a 3 per cent voting swing for Bob Hawke to be forced from office, says Mr Hutchins.

We shall find out during the next few days in this country that a week is a long time in politics. So the five weeks to polling day in Australia look like an eternity.

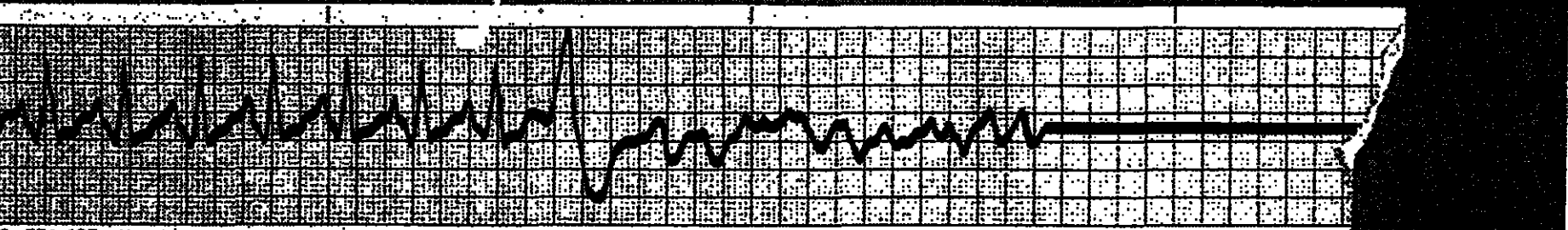
Even if the political uncertainties are resolved in mid-July, big economic headaches will remain. There must be more than a hint of suspicion that the Australian bull market is living on borrowed time.



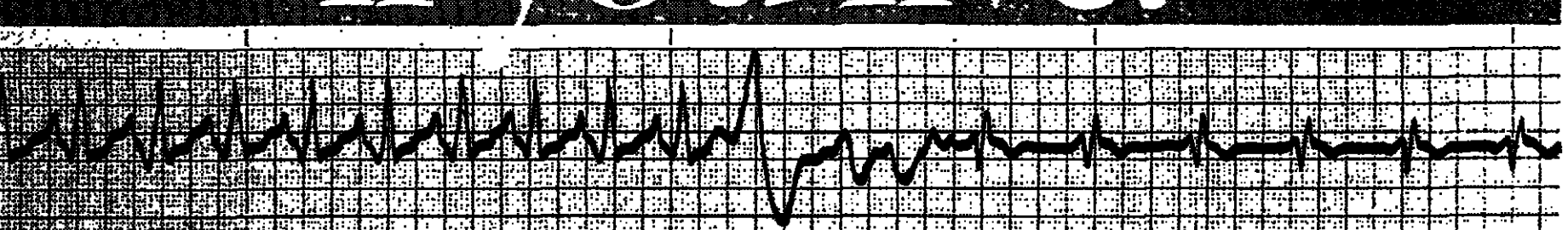
Dylan Evans, left: "strong gold". Jamie Berry, right: "no to Australia". Bob Hawke is in the middle of an election campaign looking for a third term of office for his Labor Party



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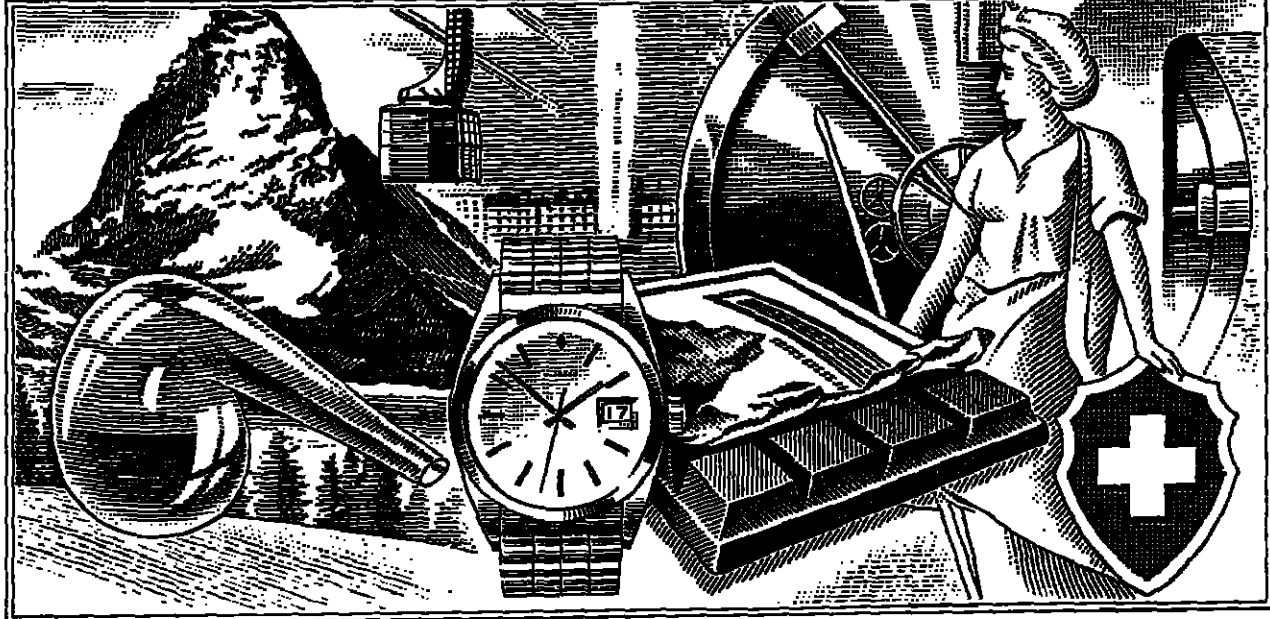
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Investment Opportunities

Switzerland may not be a high growth economy, but it does offer a useful combination of strong defensive investment (such as banking and insurance) with excellent individual investment opportunities - in particular, the increasing number of high quality companies seeking new listings. Another important growth direction for UK investors is, of course, the continuing strength of the Swiss Franc.

The Fund

Duménil Swiss Growth Fund is a UK authorised unit trust offering for maximum capital growth through selective and active investment in the Swiss Stock-

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GERMAN GROWTH FUND (GERMAN GROWTH FUND)
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Fixed Price Offer

Until 12th June 1987, units in the Fund may be purchased at the fixed price of 100p. After the fixed price offer closes, units may be purchased at the current quoted offer price.

Minimum investment is £1,000 and the estimated gross annual yield is 11% p.a.

Please remember that the price of units and any income from them may go down as well as up.

You should regard your investment as long term.

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I wish to invest (maximum £1,000) in the Duménil Swiss Growth Fund at the fixed price of 100p (closing 12th June 1987).

A cheque is enclosed payable to Duménil Unit Trust Management Limited.

I am over 18 years of age Please tick box if investment or income is required.

This offer is not open to residents of the Republic of Ireland. Please send a copy of Duménil's European Investment Bulletin.

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DATE: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

(Lump sum payments must be made in full unless stated otherwise.)

Slow movers' speed-up plan

PEPs

AMANDA PARDOE assesses the progress of personal equity plans and finds them in need of beefing-up

The concept of the personal equity plan (PEP) was introduced by Nigel Lawson in his 1986 Budget, the aim being to provide a simple, tax-efficient vehicle through which individuals could invest modest sums in equities.

PEPs actually came on to the market at the start of this year, and although it is early days, it is worth taking stock of progress so far.

According to Chase de Vere Investments, the London-based financial advisers, more than 70 different management groups now offer in excess of 125 PEP schemes.

However, in spite of the intensive marketing campaigns, including advertising and mail shots staged by some of the bigger players in the field, Chase de Vere's research shows that the PEP message has not been very effective in reaching potential investors.

Michael Chadwick, the joint managing director, estimates that only around 90,000 plans have been taken out so far, representing investments of roughly £150 million.

Chase de Vere carried out a survey of more than 600 individuals - chosen specifically because they were identified as prospective PEP investors - between May 14 and May 18. Although 69 per cent said they had heard of PEPs, only 22 per cent understood the mechanics and the tax concessions offered, 67 per cent said they had not considered investing in a PEP, and only 9 per cent thought they might take out a plan.

As a reminder, anyone aged 18 and over and resident in the UK can take out a PEP. The maximum investment is £2,400 a year, or £200 a month. Provided you hold on to your plan for a full calendar year, which means a minimum of between 12 months and two years, there is no



Bateman, left: "Most Fidelity clients have the maximum." Chadwick: "Only 90,000 plans"

capital gains tax on any profits and no income tax on any dividends, which can be reinvested.

The underlying investment of a PEP must be ordinary shares in UK companies listed on either the Stock Exchange or the Unlisted Securities Market. Up to 25 per cent of the total can be invested in unit trusts or investment trusts. A PEP must be administered and supervised by a registered plan manager.

The business transacted so far has been dominated by a handful of companies, including Barclays Bank, Fidelity, Hill Samuel, Lloyds Bank, Prudential and Save & Prosper. Lloyds Bank, for example, has almost 30,000 plan holders, Fidelity 23,000, and Save & Prosper 21,000.

Not surprisingly, the majority of plans were set up during the first two months of the year. Since then, business has started to tail off. Lloyds, for instance, had 20,250 plan holders by the end of January. For a while this figure increased by around 1,000 a week, but by the last week in May, the number of new plans had dwindled to 200 a week.

Other groups have confirmed this trend, although Hill Samuel has sustained a fairly constant inflow thanks to the efforts of its direct sales force. The easing-off does not necessarily mean that interest in PEPs has been exhausted.

Because the tax breaks are effective only after a full calendar year, the next peak of new business can be expected towards the end of 1987.

Of the plans taken out with the major groups, most are through lump sum investments. Barry Bateman, of Fidelity, says that almost all his group's clients have invested the maximum £2,400. This is in spite of the fact that these groups all offer at least one regular savings plan, unlike many of the smaller managers.

In contrast, Commercial Union has experienced strong demand from investors for a lower investment minimum. In response, it reduced the minimum lump sum from

CHASE DE VERE'S PROPOSALS

1. The maximum total investment should be increased from £2,400 a year per person to £4,800.
2. Up to 30 per cent should be able to be invested in unit trusts and investment trusts.
3. A qualifying five-year regular savings plan, with tax relief should be linked to PEPs. The main points of this are:
 - Maximum investment of £1,800 a year suggested - to form part of the total PEP maximum.
 - Tax relief of not less than 10 per cent, and ideally half basic rate tax, deducted at source.
 - The tax relief would be clawed back if the investment did not run for five years.

Chase de Vere's wider programme of share ownership.

To increase the appeal of what is almost unanimously considered to be an attractive, but unexploited, investment vehicle, Chase de Vere has drawn up a list of proposed changes to the PEP framework. The proposals were delivered to Mr Lawson this week.

Mr Chadwick believes that by beefing up the limits on PEP holdings, the investments could accumulate over a number of years into a considerable sum, on which the tax concessions would be very valuable.

Where the charges are fixed, they would represent better value. By increasing the limit on unit and investment trusts, small investors would still be able to have a broadly based portfolio.

The most significant pro-

posal - the introduction of a five-year qualifying policy - would automatically make PEPs attractive to small investors. It would also appeal to plan managers, who would know that they had a commitment of regular savings and that their charges could be spread out accordingly.

The outcome of the general election could, of course, affect the future of PEPs. Robb Bloor, manager of Chase de Vere's Moneyline research department, has questioned their main political parties' attitude towards PEPs.

The Conservatives said they had no immediate plans for change. The Labour Party said it did not have a specific policy on PEPs but would look into it if elected. Mr Bloor points out that Labour was extremely critical of PEPs at the outset, and has said in the past that it would not support their development.

The most specific response came from the Alliance, which said it was in favour of PEPs but felt the present schemes were not particularly attractive. The Alliance would seek to improve the tax benefits.

Although tax concessions are a big attraction, performance is still all-important. PEPs have not been running long enough yet to provide any meaningful performance statistics, and prospective investors are well advised to look at the performance of the management team in other established areas.

For readers who want some idea of PEPs returns achieved so far, several groups, such as Fidelity, Hill Samuel and Save & Prosper, have provided figures showing returns of more than 20 per cent.

One new development for the use of PEPs could become popular. Eagle Star, which is part of BAT Industries, is aiming its Equity Plus PEP at encouraging existing BAT Industries shareholders to increase their holdings in the company. BAT is issuing new shares at mid-market price and no dealing costs are involved. The initial charge is £34.50 for a £2,400 investment and the annual management charge is 1 per cent.

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Since the fund was launched in its current form on September 8th 1986, the offer price has risen by 16.2% (at 20.5.87), while the Standard and Poor's index has declined by 0.9% in sterling terms.

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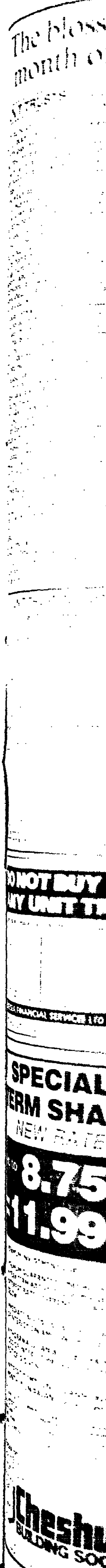
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Fidelity TOP PERFORMING UNIT TRUST GROUP 1 For 12 months to May 15, 1987 SOURCE: PLANNED SAVINGS

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The blossoming month of May

UNIT TRUSTS

With the notable exception of the European funds, May was a pretty good month for most unit trust investors, as stock markets generally regained some stability after a fairly nervous April. Even Wall Street, which has given investors a bumpy ride of late, settled down as the dollar made up some lost ground.

The one-year table hardly reflects it, but US-invested funds actually did quite well over the month. Strong foreign buying, aided by a flurry of take-over and restructuring, underpinned a market still worried about inflation and a possible trade war.

Computer stocks returned to favour, but on the whole it was the front-line, blue-chip equities that benefited most - hence the proliferation of smaller company vehicles at the wrong end of the rankings.

Japanese funds also flourished. Investors shrugged off alarmist talk about a vastly over-priced market and pushed the Nikkei Dow Index to new highs. Japanese institutions are flush with funds and although some of their investment is going abroad, much is still finding its way on to the domestic market. All but one of the 58 Japanese unit trusts made a profit over May with 10 recording gains of more than 10 per cent.

The Far Eastern sector went one better with a 100 per cent success rate. The specialist Singapore, Hong Kong and Malaysia funds were the best performers. These funds give investors a roller-coaster ride, but when they come good they tend to do it in style.

Despite success abroad, however, those investors who back the UK economy could have few grounds for complaint last month. The market rose and fell with every day's opinion polls, but overall sentiment was bullish and the general feeling was that the Tories would be re-elected.

A strong pound and better-than-expected trade figures also boosted foreign investment and fuelled expectations of further interest rate cuts.

Gilt funds showed a few losses but, these apart, 402 of 403 UK-invested unit trusts made gains over May.

The strong market hit the market

The places not to be invested in last month were the European and commodity and energy sectors. Although they dominate the one-year top 10 tables, gold funds fell as the US dollar found renewed strength, and half the 32 funds in this sector made losses.

European funds, however, were the biggest disappointment. Europe was the bandwagon that everyone was jumping on a year or so ago, but thanks mainly to the performance of the West German market, the returns have been generally depressing of late. The strength of the mark has hit the market badly, and the poor showing of Chancellor Kohl's party in last month's regional elections did little to revive spirits.

Only 11 out of 92 funds in the European sector made any sort of profit last month and most of these were only marginal advances.

How much do you love your stockbroker?

He fails to tell me about new issues. He fails to tell me when to sell. He fails to provide me with research. His tips are not too good and he is slow to pay up.

These are just some of the criticisms levelled against stockbrokers by private clients in a survey of nearly 1,500 individual investors published in this week's *Investors Chronicle*.

The key question in the survey was: "Would you recommend your stockbroker to a friend?" From the answers the *Investors Chronicle* has compiled a league table of 15 leading stockbroking firms putting the Manchester broker, Henry Cooke Lumsden, in top place with most of the big London brokers trailing behind. Springsour Vickers occupies 15th place and Quilter Goodison, the share shop pioneer headed by the Stock Exchange chairman Sir Nicholas Goodison, could manage only 11th place.

Sample sizes for information on individual brokers are low, but one third of Kleinwort Greaveson clients questioned found their broker inefficient or slow in making payments. Just under a third of the sample of Charles Stanley clients believed their broker was inefficient or slow in handling paperwork. More than half the Redmayne Bentley clients who responded said their broker was difficult to contact by telephone.

Sun Alliance, Britain's biggest home insurer, is offering a 10 per cent discount on its new Home Insurance contents policy. But policyholders will have to earn the reduction by taking anti-burglary and burst pipe precautions, such as fitting approved locks and lagging tanks. The company estimates that theft accounted for 50

per cent of its claims costs in 1986, and burst pipes 19 per cent.

Competition from privatizations, National Savings and unit trusts are all having a serious effect on the flow of savings into building societies. At the same time, the societies are having to compete with other lenders.

To prevent a shortage of funds, and to help them keep their 75 per cent share of the mortgage market, the societies are seeking permission from the Government to increase the amount of money they can raise in the wholesale money markets.

The problem is highlighted by Philip Court, chief executive of the Birmingham Midshires Building Society, who says:



"We have allocated £430 million for mortgage lending during 1987, but the shortfall of net inflow from savers is having to be made up from either liquidity or from wholesale borrowing, and this cannot continue at the present level."

Mr Court said this week that unless the Government took some action fast, he foresaw the distinct possibility of the return of mortgage queues.

Under new investor protection legislation, firms offering advice to members of the public on life assurance and unit trusts will be required to be members of a self-regulating organization called the Financial Intermediaries, Managers

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|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| One Year | Three Years | |
| Waverley Aust Gold 307.0 | FS Balanced Growth 613.0 | |
| Abbey Commodity & Engy 232.4 | TR Special Opport 442.7 | |
| Schroder Gold 227.5 | County Japan Growth 417.8 | |
| Gartmore Gold Share 224.4 | TR Smaller Companies 378.8 | |
| MIM Britannia Gold 218.4 | Artwright 358.5 | |
| S&P Exploration 215.7 | GRE Property Share 351.1 | |
| Henderson Gold 213.8 | Brown Shipley Recovery 344.7 | |
| Target Gold 203.5 | Guinness Malton Recovery 344.7 | |
| M&G Gold & General 201.0 | Hill Samuel Smaller Cos 336.5 | |
| M&G Aust & General 199.3 | Vanguard Spec Situation 330.5 | |
| * Average 142.9 | * Average 251.3 | |
| THE WORST | | |
| One Year | Three Years | |
| Henderson Amer Sml Cos 85.8 | MIM Britannia Wrld Tech 111.6 | |
| Gartmore American 85.6 | Brown Shipley Tech 110.9 | |
| Schroder US Sml Cos 84.7 | Target Australia 109.8 | |
| M&G American Sml Cos 84.7 | Gartmore Gold Share 108.5 | |
| F&C US Smaller Cos 84.4 | Target Commodity 104.4 | |
| Henderson Amer Recovery 84.1 | Sentinel American Tech 101.3 | |
| BG America 83.6 | Canada Growth 99.5 | |
| Framlington Amer Gen 82.7 | 31 Smaller Companies 95.7 | |
| St Vincent US Growth 82.4 | MIM Henderson Sing & Malaysia 92.3 | |
| LAS North American Eqty 82.0 | MIM Brit Uni Energy 74.3 | |

Offer to bid basis. Net income reinvested. Source: Planned Savings

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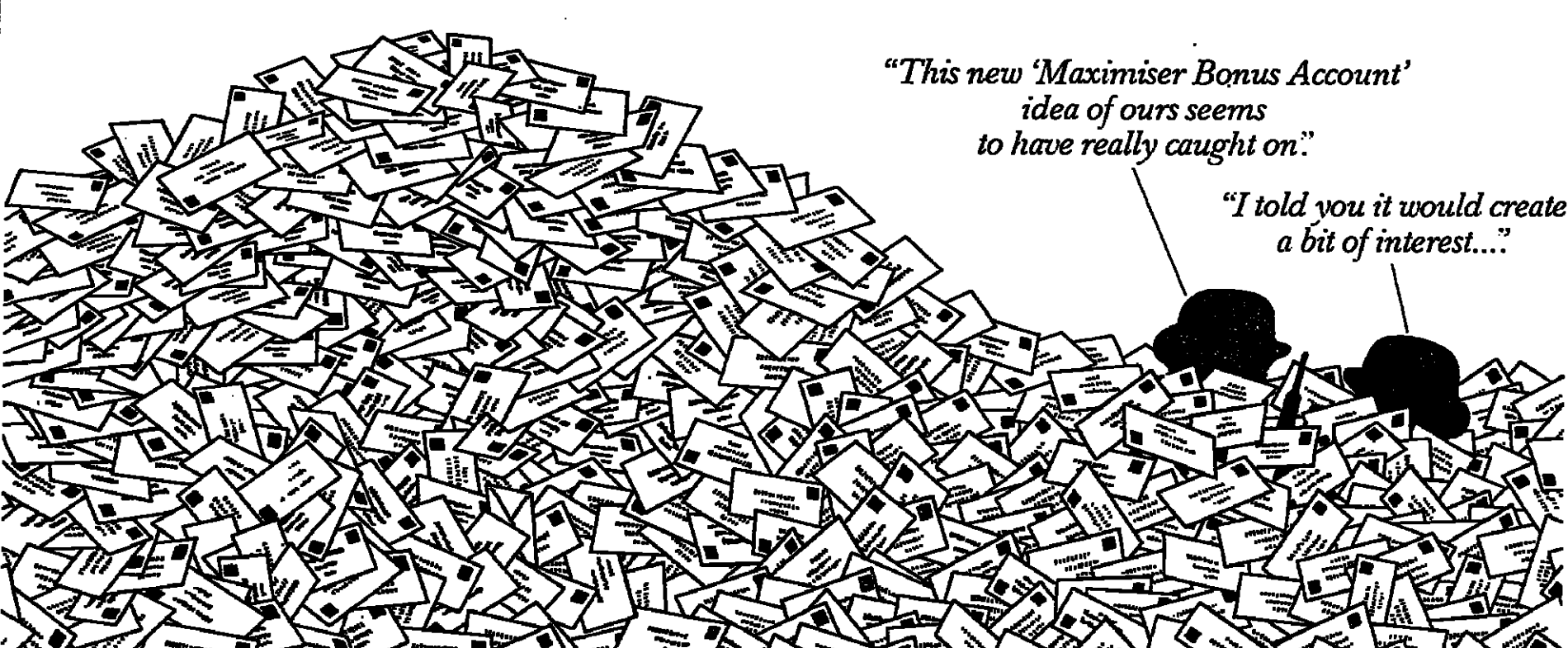
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ALLOWANCES

The present Supplementary Benefit (SB) system offers no fewer than 14 additional allowances by which eligible claimants who can prove a specific need can increase their total weekly benefit.

This is especially important for people who are sick or disabled, as 10 of the additions are directly related to ill health or disability.

But all that will change from next April. SB and the additional allowances are to be abolished in favour of two new systems known as Income Support and the Social Fund. For many people the amount of benefit available from next April will be much less than is currently the case. However, where SB claimants can establish a need for an additional allowance before April, the cash value of their benefit will be protected if it appears that they would be worse off on Income Support.

Thus it is important that if you are entitled to SB and think you might be entitled to one or more of these allowances, you should claim as soon as possible, as it does take some time for the DHSS to accept that a particular need is proven. The allowances are as follows:

HEATING ADDITIONS: There are several ways in which to qualify for a heating addition. On health grounds, if you find it difficult to get around for some physical reason, you would be entitled to an addition of £2.20 a week. If you are housebound or bedridden, or if you receive Mobility or Attendance Allowance, you can claim a higher-rate heating addition of £5.55 a week.

Heating additions can also be claimed on accommodation grounds. For example, if your home is particularly difficult to heat because it is damp or has very large rooms, you could claim an addition of £2.20 a week. If your home is exceptionally difficult to heat adequately because it is very old, or is in an exposed position, the addition increases to £5.55 a week. If your home is on a site that has a "recognized" expensive heating system, you can claim an addition of £4.40 for four rooms or less, or £8.80 for five or more rooms.

Normally it is possible to receive only one heating addition. However, if you qualify on both health and accommodation grounds you will receive whichever is the highest addition. And you can receive a heating addition in respect of every person in the

household who receives the Attendance or Mobility Allowance or both.

DIET ADDITIONS: There is a whole range of additional allowances available to people who on medical grounds need a diet that is likely to cause additional costs. These range from convalescence following a major illness - £1.65 a week - up to £10.85 a week if you suffer from kidney failure.

You should ask at your local DHSS office for a full list of the illnesses covered. If you cannot find your particular condition listed for a special addition, you can apply for a "whole cost" diet addition if you are required to follow a diet costing substantially more than £3.80 a week.

LAUNDRY ADDITIONS: As with heating additions, these are available on various grounds, provided the total cost of a week's laundry exceeds 55p. For example, you will be entitled to an addition if the laundry cannot be done at home because all the adults in the household are infirm, disabled or ill, if the laundry cannot be done at home

because there is no suitable washing or drying facilities, or if the amount of laundry is greater than normal for some reason, such as incontinence.

In this latter case it does not matter whether the washing is done at home or not. In all cases, the amount of the addition will be the weekly cost that is over and above 55p a week.

SPECIAL CLOTHING ADDITION: If, because of your stature or size, or because of a physical disability, you have to buy special clothing that works out more expensive than ordinary clothing, you may be entitled to a weekly addition to meet the extra cost over and above that for ordinary clothes.

SPECIAL WEAR AND TEAR ON CLOTHING ADDITION: This applies if you wear out clothing or footwear unusually quickly because of a physical condition. The addi-

bath required. SB officers have been instructed to accept bed-wetting and incontinence as grounds for extra baths.

Do not let the apparent humiliation put you off claiming this addition. Your doctor needs only to write a letter saying you need the extra baths on medical grounds. No details have to be given. Indeed, the sheer warmth from bathing may relieve the pain of certain conditions. If this applies, you would still be entitled to the addition on medical grounds.

AGE ADDITION: If you or someone in your household is aged 80 years or more you are entitled to an extra 25p a week each.

BLINDNESS ADDITION: This provides an extra £1.25 a week for every person in the household who is aged 16 or more and is blind. If the blind person is a "non-householder", that is, not

responsible for rent etc, and aged 18 or more, the addition is increased to £5.95 a week for those on the short-term SB rate and £7.55 for those on the long-term rate.

HOSPITAL FARES ADDITION: If a close relative or a person who is normally a member of the household is in hospital and you as claimant visit him or her regularly, you can claim a weekly addition to cover the cost of the fares. Do not, however, that if you already receive benefit for the patient, a proportion of that benefit may be expected to go towards the cost of the fares.

OTHER ADDITIONS include extra allowances for the storage of essential furniture, for boarding out feet where a child is boarded out prior to adoption, and hire purchase fees for the essential household items.

DOMESTIC CARE ASSISTANT ADDITION: This is perhaps the most important of the available additions because in this one case the Government has pledged to give the additional real protection once the Income Support scheme comes into operation.

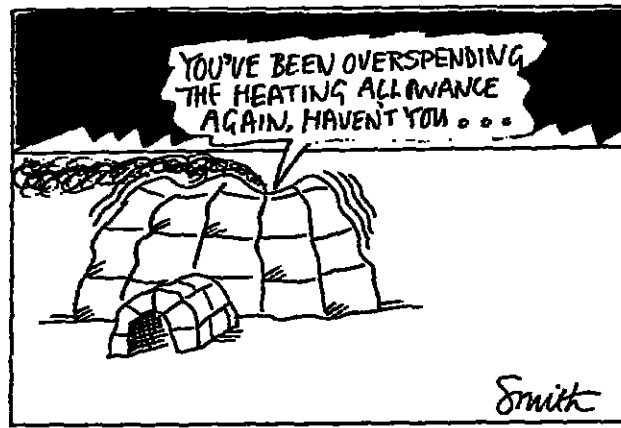
If you cannot cope with ordinary domestic tasks such as cooking and cleaning, because of your age, disability or heavy family responsibilities, you can apply for this allowance to cover the cost of private domestic help.

However, the addition is not available to cover the cost of running errands or cleaning windows and, if the help is provided by a close relative, the addition will not be paid unless that person incurs more than minimal expenses. Nor will the addition be paid if the home help is provided by your local authority. However, if the local authority makes a charge for the service provided or if it does not provide sufficient help to meet your needs, you should contact private help and claim this addition.

If you are very severely disabled and need live-in help, you can claim up to £47.70 a week to pay the helper.

A claimant can receive any number of the additions noted above. People with severe disabilities in particular are potentially likely to be worse off once the Income Support system comes into operation. That is why it is important to establish rights to the extra allowances now.

Charles Jackson



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- Please send me information on Woolwich Guaranteed Premium Shares. (No stamp required). Tick box required.

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Signature(s) _____

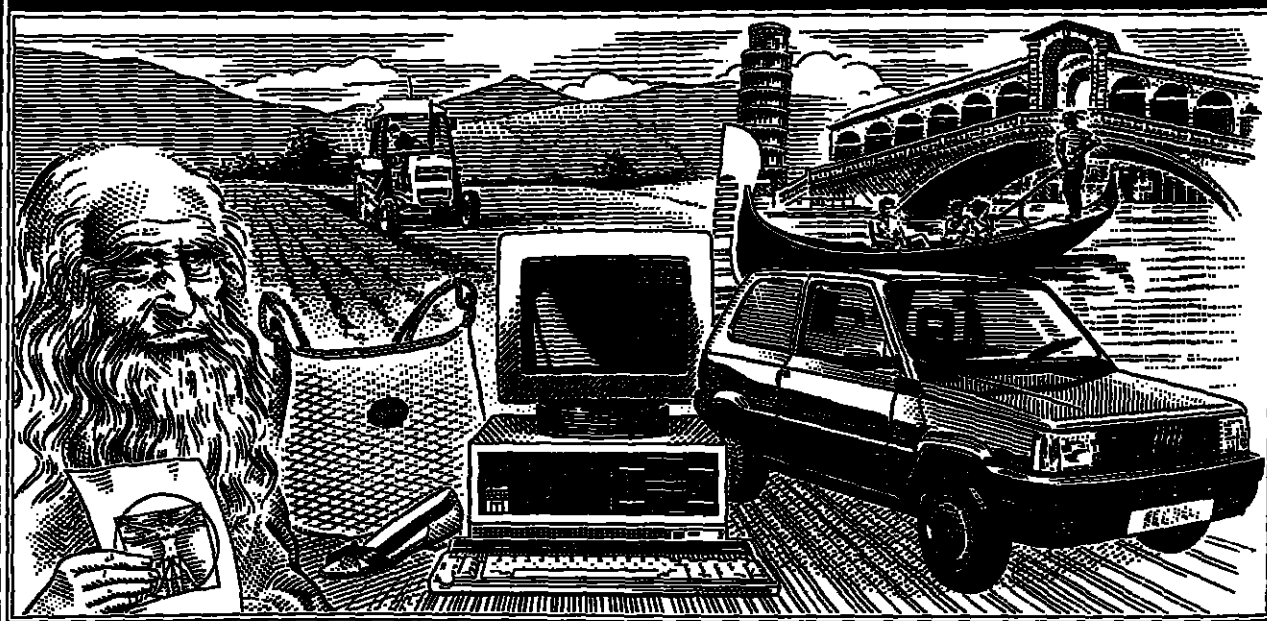


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FAMILY MONEY/4
The vital that dete
your in
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11.3
LEGACY
INVEST THROUGH THE SPECIAL

FAMILY MONEY/5

The vital number that determines your income

TAX

Did you check your tax coding? If it is wrong, you will pay the wrong amount. **DANBY BLOCH** and **RAYMOND GODFREY** explain

Your tax code tells your employer how much income tax under the pay-as-you-earn system (PAYE) should be deducted from your monthly salary or weekly wage or indeed any other payments you receive in your job.

The PAYE system has been designed so that your employer deducts just the right amount according to the allowances due to you, the tax from previous years that you owe and, of course, your level of income.

But it is essential that your code is correct. For it tells your employer how much income is tax-free so that he can use the Inland Revenue tables to work out the tax on the balance of your pay.

Most notices of coding go out every year, around January or February. Often the codes are altered during the ensuing tax year if there is a change in circumstances. For example, you may have moved jobs, acquired a new source of income or got married or become entitled to some other relief. You may not receive a notice every year, although the chances are that you will if there are any changes in your affairs.

The code itself is made up from all your allowances for expenses, interest and so on, but there may be a deduction for the other income that has not suffered tax or for fringe benefits such as a company car. Your tax code is then based on the sum total.

MIRAS, as well as tax relief for certain maintenance payments or charitable deeds of covenant, gives you only basic-rate relief. If you are a higher-rate taxpayer, you will normally get your extra relief on these items in the coding.

Your personal allowances are likely to be a big component. When the notice is sent out early in the calendar year, the calculations are based on the current year's allowance levels, because the new allowances are not announced until the Budget. The personal allowances are then automatic.

ually updated a few weeks later. This year, for example, the revised codings took effect on the first pay day after May 17 in most cases.

Your code may be reduced by other items, which will, therefore, have the effect of your paying tax on them. For example, the taxman may include under these deductions interest that you have received untaxed.

Other aspects of income that might be brought into the PAYE net in this way are state retirement pensions, National Savings interest and freelance earnings. These are usually received before tax is deducted. This reduces your code and this income is taxed in a fairly convenient way.

For many people taxable fringe benefits such as the company car scale charge will form a main deduction here. For example, in the current year a married man may have only the married person's allowance of £3,795. This might be reduced by the fringe benefit charge on his company car, which, if it is a 1500cc Ford under four years old, would have a scale charge of £700. Net allowances on which the coding is based would then be £3,095.

Adjustments could also be included if you are a higher-rate taxpayer and have received income on which only basic-rate tax has been deducted. The code will also be affected if you have underpaid tax in previous years. The outstanding amount can be included within the coding as a deduction to bring more income to charge in the current year.

A letter shows the type of allowance

The code number itself is calculated by taking off the last figure on the total net allowances shown as allowances given against pay etc. Your employer uses this to calculate the PAYE from the tax table.

A letter is given after your code number showing what personal allowance you are getting. L stands for the single person's allowance of £2,425 or the wife's earned income allowance, which is the same amount. H is for the married person's allowance of £3,795 or the additional personal allowance for single parents etc, which is paid in addition to the single person's allowance. P is for the full age allowance for a single person, and V is for the full age allowance for a married person.

If your taxable state benefits exceed your tax-free allowances the Revenue collects the tax due on them by taxing your pay at a special rate. This is shown by the letter F on your code. If this happens, you should certainly check that you are not being overtaxed.



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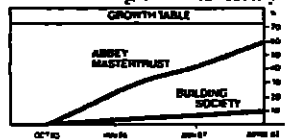
What's not so simple is which unit trust — there are over 1000 trusts to choose from — or when to buy and when to sell.

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Simply fill in the coupon below and return it with your cheque to Marketing Operations Manager, Abbey Unit Trust Managers Ltd, PO Box 33, 80 Hockley Road, Bourneville B15 5AL.

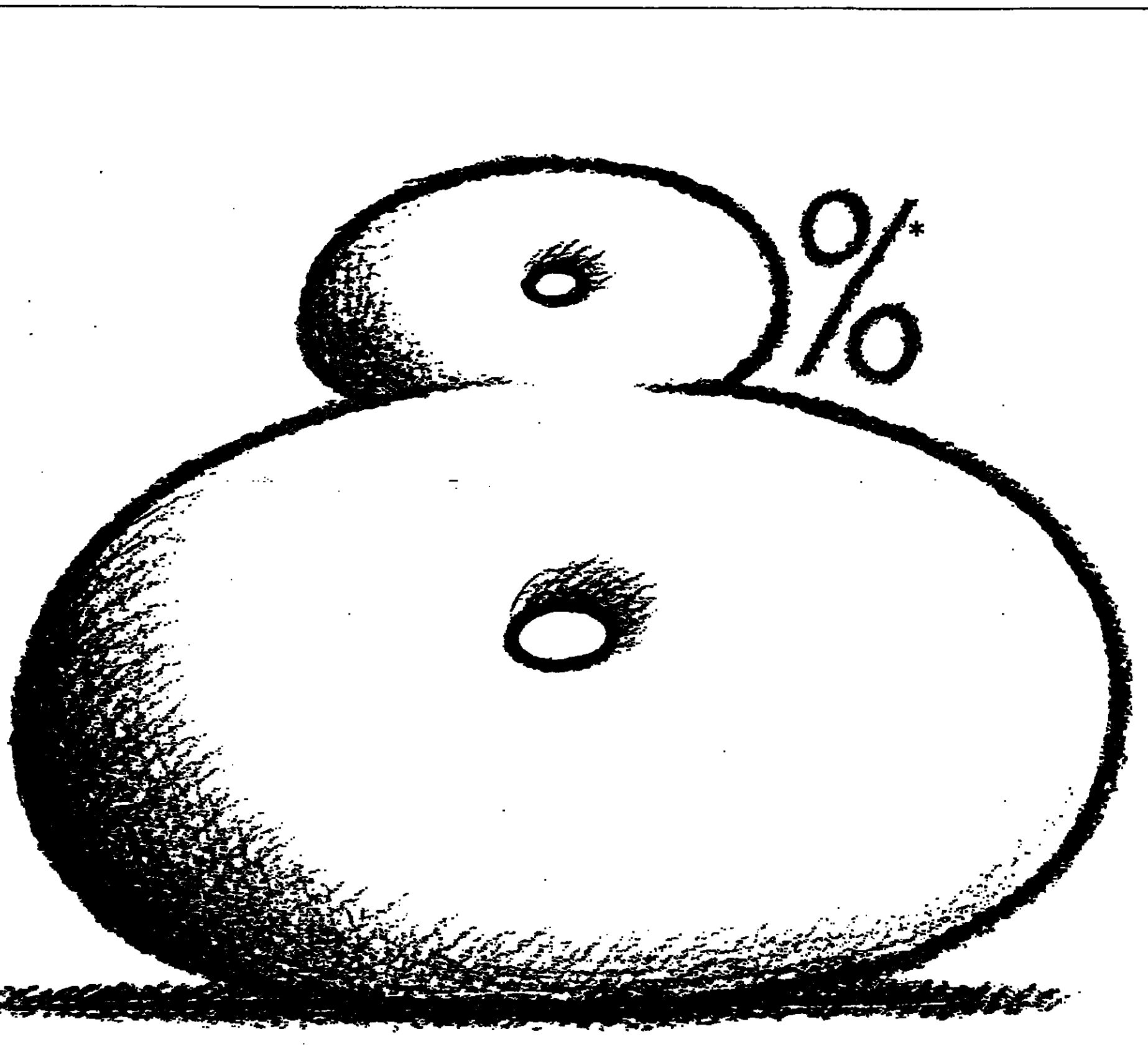
Or talk to your financial adviser.

General Information: You can buy or sell units on any business day. Written information will be sent on receipt of your opening form and a full letter will be sent to you as soon as possible. Payments are made monthly on the 15th of each month. Abbey Unit Trust Managers Ltd are authorised by the Financial Services Commission. The MasterTrust is a limited liability company registered in England. The MasterTrust is a subsidiary of Abbey Life Group plc, an institution with over £2,100 million of investment assets. Safe hands indeed.

Send me a letter for: information minimum £500 payable to Abbey Unit Trust Managers Ltd for investment in the Accumulation Fund of Abbey MasterTrust at the rate of 1% extra allocation of units for all investments in Abbey MasterTrust received by the 30th June 1987.

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FAMILY MONEY/6

Unknown lenders

MORTGAGES

Several thousand home-owners have had their mortgage loans sold on to unknown buyers in recent weeks as secondary mortgage trading — a US phenomenon — has begun to develop in the UK. JANE ALEXANDER reports

Two such deals have been done — one worth £50 million by National Home Loans involving the transfer of around 1,250 mortgages, and, more recently, one worth £200 million from the Mortgage Corporation. Another issue, from the Household Mortgage Corporation, is imminent.

Borrowers need not be concerned at what has been done. Although the actual mortgage loan has been sold on, the original lender still has the right to set the mortgage rate and to deal with arrears problems. If the original lender has sold on such rights there would be much more cause for concern.

This distinction has been made by a government-sponsored working party, which recently published a set of

guidelines that it hopes players in this new market will adopt. As yet they are only guidelines, but this will be reviewed within 18 months.

The *Statement of Practice* says that if the original lender retains the right to set the mortgage rate and deal with arrears, he need seek only the borrowers' general consent to transfer the mortgage. For new mortgages this can be done before the mortgage is completed. For existing mortgages the guideline is that individual approaches should be made to the borrowers, giving them a "reasonable opportunity" to decline consent.

When "key matters" are transferred a lender must seek borrowers' specific consent. None of the mortgage-backed issues that have been done or are imminent have transferred these "key matters".

The Government is keen that consumers should be protected but it does not want to impose unduly restrictive rules as it feels that secondary mortgage trading will eventually benefit the consumer.

John Patena, the Housing Minister, said: "The potential benefits to borrowers in the development of a market of this kind are considerable, not least in the increased funds it

can generate for mortgage lending. The market has worked well in the US and there is no reason why it should not work well here."

John Robertson, mortgage operations director at Household Mortgage Corporation, says there is "probably a fair balance" in the guidelines. He thinks a more important rule was the Inland Revenue one that says the end lender must be subscribed for MIRAS purposes.

"I cannot see institutions working under MIRAS rules acting against the interests of consumers," he said.

The Halifax Building Society, according to Jim Murgatroyd, the assistant general manager, fully backs this initiative. "We would never securitize a borrower's mortgage over his head and the principle of gaining consent is very important," said Mr Murgatroyd. Those who already have Halifax mortgages would not have them sold on anyway.

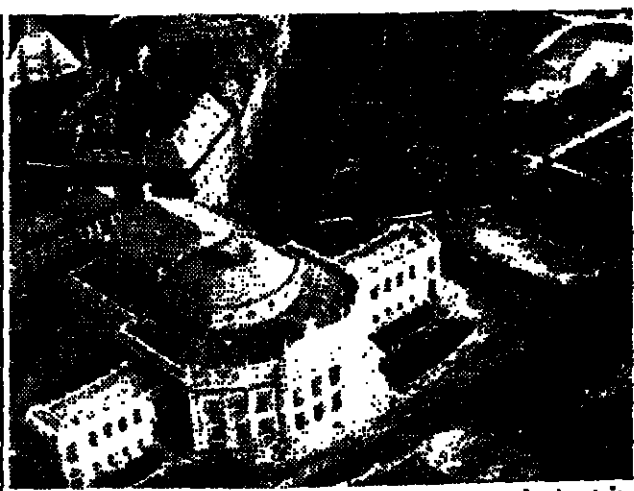
The only area where the Halifax questions the practicability of the rules is if it were to introduce very specialist types of mortgage such as those linked to money market rates — LIBOR-linked — or index-linked ones, to a very specialist audience. If it was made clear to these sophisticated borrowers at the outset what was to happen, the society questions the need to go back to them a second time. As the interest rate in these cases is already fixed to a certain market or inflation rate it would not be affected by any sale.

Gordon Taylor, a director at Salomon Bros, which managed the first mortgage securitization issues, was a member of the working party. He finds its recommendations "fair and constructive".

Mr Taylor expects 99 per cent of mortgage securitizations in the UK, if not all of them, will keep control over key matters — what he terms "servicing retained transfers". This is because there is a healthy profit from servicing mortgage loans.

There are no comparable consumer protection rules in the United States, mainly because mortgages generally have fixed rates, so there are no worries over a new lender having discretion. Arrears have never become an issue in the United States, says Mr Taylor, even though the rate of default is higher there.

Mr Taylor says a new lender would not react differently to arrears problems. "If there is a problem the surest way to lose money is to foreclose on the loan immediately."



Vienna: within reach of those who buy property in Austria

Land of retirement and investment

DIANA WILDMAN looks at what is involved in buying a leisure home in Austria

Development in Austria has evolved over the years as a result of long-term strict planning controls. Consequently, Austria has long been popular with foreigners who have retirement plans and with investors who can benefit from an all-year-round rental income from both the ski and the summer seasons.

It is virtually impossible for foreigners to buy into much of Austria, including the Tyrol, Styria, however, is one area that is actually being promoted in the UK through the Birmingham-based Botteley & Co (021-454 6930).

Purchasing procedures are straightforward, provided the necessary criteria are observed. But as with any property transaction, independent legal advice should be sought.

A non-refundable holding deposit is not mandatory when reserving a leisure home in Austria, so, as in England and Wales, not all vendors demand one. However, Diana Chilton, of Botteley, says that if the potential purchaser reneges on an agreement to buy into a new development, and has paid a deposit, he could lose a percentage of it.

An undertaking to buy, once the right property is located, is signed either in Austria or possibly in the UK, and this is written in German with an English translation.

The legal procedure in Austria, as in other European countries, has the local lawyer acting for both vendor and purchaser and he will draw up a contract of sale and issue a power of attorney to enable him to act on the purchaser's behalf. Although the undertaking to buy is now signed, no moneys will have officially been paid.

Usually, the next step is for foreign purchasers to sign the completed legal documents in front of an official at the relevant Austrian embassy, which for all British buyers would be in London. This is particularly important if there should be any minor variations in the sales procedure.

These signed documents, plus full payment for the holiday home, go back to the lawyer in Austria and the moneys are put into a trustee account. The owner can now

occupy his newly acquired purchase. What does take time, from three to six months, is registering the new owner's title to the property, which is done in front of the local notary. After this, all the taxes and fees involved in the purchase must be paid and the money in the trustee account released to the vendor.

Essential purchasing costs amount to 12 per cent of the purchase price, itemized as follows:

- 3 per cent conveyancing fees and trustee management of money by the notary
- 1 per cent entry fee for the land register
- 8 per cent ground buying tax. When you are buying a furnished property, the value of the furnishings are deducted from the sale price before assessing the tax.
- Finance can sometimes be arranged, subject to status, with an Austrian bank using the Austrian property as collateral. Loans in most cases would be up to 50 per cent, repayable between five and 20 years. Rates vary according to the Austrian bank rate.

Portfolio Gold

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 29).

| Stock | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Total |
|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 1 | +5 | +5 | +5 | +5 | +3 | | |
| 2 | +4 | +7 | +7 | +5 | +2 | | |
| 3 | +3 | +7 | +4 | +6 | +1 | | |
| 4 | +4 | +3 | +7 | +4 | +2 | | |
| 5 | +4 | +5 | +4 | +6 | +4 | | |
| 6 | +3 | +2 | +6 | +5 | +2 | | |
| 7 | +3 | +8 | +7 | +3 | +2 | | |
| 8 | +2 | +8 | +6 | +6 | +1 | | |
| 9 | +2 | +7 | +6 | +3 | +4 | | |
| 10 | +3 | +6 | +6 | +4 | +4 | | |
| 11 | +2 | +7 | +6 | +6 | +1 | | |
| 12 | +4 | +6 | +5 | +5 | +2 | | |
| 13 | +2 | +4 | +6 | +3 | +3 | | |
| 14 | +1 | +7 | +4 | +5 | +1 | | |
| 15 | +3 | +7 | +2 | +3 | | | |
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| 43 | +4 | +2 | +7 | +3 | +2 | | |
| 44 | +2 | +7 | +6 | +6 | +1 | | |

Power to make apportionment of costs order

Davies (Joseph Owen) v Eli Lilly & Co and Others. Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Lloyd and Lord Justice Balcombe.

[Judgment June 3] There was jurisdiction to make an order which had the effect that, in an action brought by a large number of plaintiffs, some of whom were legally aided and some of whom were not, where particular plaintiffs incurred costs in pursuing "lead actions" either personally or through the legal aid fund, every other plaintiff should contribute ratably.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the plaintiff, Joseph Owen Davies, against a decision of Mr Justice Hirst (7th May 1986) whereby he had given directions as to the proportional division of costs between the plaintiffs in the Open litigation, in which about 1,300 plaintiffs claimed damages for personal injuries alleged to have been caused by the side effects of Opren (benoxaprofen).

Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, Mr Christopher Carling and Mr Oliver Thorold for the plaintiff; Mr Jonathan Playford, QC, Mr Michael Spencer and Mr Andrew Payne for Eli Lilly & Co and related defendants; Mr Justin Fenwick for the Attorney-General on behalf of the Committee on Safety of Medicines and the Department of Health and Social Security; Mr George Palmer as *amicus curiae*; Mr Duncan Matheson for the Law Society.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that some features of the litigation needed to be emphasized, since they gave the dispute a character which was unique in English legal history. They were the number of plaintiffs, the average age of the plaintiffs, the cost of the litigation, the diversity of the side effects of Opren alleged, and the fact that the concept of a "class action" was as yet unknown to the English courts.

It had been realized that it was essential that one nominated judge should take charge of all the interlocutory applications. Arrangements had been made for lead actions to be selected which raised common issues and for those actions to be heard first, thus settling those issues for the benefit of all.

Consideration had been given to how, within the powers and procedures of the court, the costs of the lead actions could be taken off the shoulders of the plaintiffs in whose names they were being brought. One thought which had occurred to many commentators was that the lead actions should be chosen with an eye to the plaintiffs being those who not only had the advantage of legal aid, but whose means were such that they had not been required to make any contribution. Such an approach had considerable merit, and those who espoused it were not to be criticized. Unfortunately it betrayed a misunderstanding of how the legal aid scheme worked.

Put simply, but for present purposes accurately, legal aid helped those who lost cases, not those who won them. Legal aid made grants to those who lost, but only loans to those who won.

For the successful plaintiff the legal aid fund provided a loan, not a grant, at least to the extent that his damages were sufficient to repay the loan. If he recovered more by way of costs, damages and interest than it had cost to recover them he would be in no better position than an unassisted litigant.

Under a scheme whereby the lead plaintiffs were chosen from among those who were legally assisted with all contributions none of them would get a penny piece by way of compensation. That would be grossly unfair, and the judge had refused to agree to it.

Further, section 7(6) of the Legal Aid Act 1974 prevented legally assisted parties from being treated differently from other citizens in any respect not authorized by the Act. Using them to fight lead cases just because they were legally assisted would breach that rule.

All that was now common ground and not the subject of any appeal.

In those circumstances the judge had made a novel order, the general effect of which was that as from June 1, 1987, where particular plaintiffs incurred costs either personally or through the legal aid fund in pursuing lead actions or thereby became liable to contribute to the defendants, every other plaintiff should contribute ratably on a *per capita* basis.

The judge had recognized that before a settlement or final hearing circumstances might change. He had given all parties liberty to apply to vary the order if circumstances changed. He had stressed that the order in no way fettered the discretion of the trial judge to make special orders as to costs.

Such an order would have been impossible before the decision of the House of Lords in *Judgment v. Ca. Ltd v. Interbank Ltd* (1986) AC 965) that section 51 of the Supreme Court Act 1981 gave the court the widest possible discretion to order anyone to pay costs incurred in proceedings.

That was subject to two provisos. The first was that the order was fair and could be justified as an exercise of judicial discretion. That was not challenged in the present case. The second was that there was nothing in the Rules of the Supreme Court which prevented such an order being made.

Upon that second proviso Mr Blom-Cooper relied. He submitted that Order 62, rule 3(3) prohibited a court from making an order in relation to costs not yet incurred. A judge must never make an actual order, even if he reserved the right to vary it in the light of a change of circumstances and further argument. To reach a provisional decision now and affirm it later was all right. To reach a final decision now while reserving the right to alter it later would not do.

If that was right, the law was indeed an ass. In fact, it was not right. Order 62, rule 3(3) prohibited a court from making an order as to ... costs ... the court shall order the costs to follow the event, except when it appears ... that ... some other order should be made.

Mr Blom-Cooper accepted that the rule viewed in isolation meant no more than that the winner was normally paid his costs by the other side. That was what "follow the event" meant.

But he said that if the origin of the rule was traced back, under Order 55 of Schedule 1 to the Supreme Court of Judicature Act 1875 an application for an order for costs, and thus the order itself, could not be made before the beginning of the trial, and that revealed the true meaning of "costs shall follow the event".

The argument was as ingenious as it was wholly unsound. In both rules the words had been given a meaning, "according to who wins". The difference lay in the fact that the 1875 rule referred to an application made at the trial, although not, incidentally, at the conclusion of the trial.

Not only could the order of the judge not be faulted, but he was to be congratulated on producing a very fair and workable order in a highly complex situation. The appeal should be dismissed.

LORD JUSTICE LLOYD, agreeing, said that when read as a whole, Order 62, rule 3, was dealing with the manner in which the discretion was to be exercised, not the time at which it was to be exercised.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE, also agreeing, said that there was substance in the contention that the direction given by Mr Justice Hirst was not such an order as was contemplated by Order 62, rule 3(3), being an order, not for the payment of costs, but for the apportionment of such costs as might be ordered to be paid by any plaintiff.

Solicitors: Goldberg Blackburn & Howards, Manchester; Davies, Arnold & Cooper; Treasury Solicitor; Treasury Solicitor; Law Society.

Role of interested eye in design dispute

Sommer Allibert (UK) Ltd and Another v Flair Plastics Ltd. Before Lord Justice Slade, Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Ralph Gibson.

[Judgment June 5] Whether a design infringed a design registered under the Registered Designs Act 1949 had to be determined by the eye, but the eye had to be that of a customer interested in design.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by Sommer Allibert (UK) Ltd, first plaintiffs, and Allibert SA, second plaintiffs, from the dismissal by Mr Justice Whitford on May 16, 1986, of their action for infringement by the defendants, Flair Plastics Ltd, of a concept of imperfect recollection: see *L'ulor Hearing Co Ltd v Mann Gas Appliances Ltd* ((1973) RPC 871, 878).

The defendants accepted that that concept was applicable provided that the hypothetical customer, through whose eyes the court was looking, should be regarded as a customer who was interested in the design of the particular chair he was purchasing and not merely one content to purchase any stacking garden armchair of white plastic material without regard to its design. The court accepted the correctness of that proviso.

Solicitors: Norton Rose Bouterell & Roche; Howard Kennedy.

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Mr Taylor expects 99 per cent of mortgage securitizations in the UK, if not all of them, will keep control over key matters — what he terms "servicing retained transfers". This is because there is a healthy profit from servicing mortgage loans.

There are no comparable consumer protection rules in the United States, mainly because mortgages generally have fixed rates, so there are no worries over a new lender having discretion. Arrears have never become an issue in the United States, says Mr Taylor, even though the rate of default is higher there.

Mr Taylor says a new lender would not react differently to arrears problems. "If there is a problem the surest way to lose money is to foreclose on the loan immediately."

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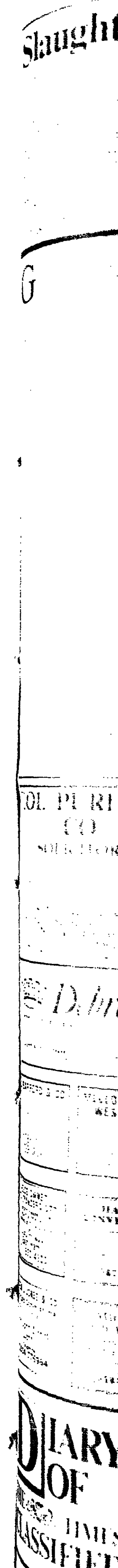
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HOUSE-BUYING SERVICES

Slaughter on the home front

After Mrs Thatcher decided that conveyancing fees were too high and that solicitors had had it too good for far too long, a new breed of operators emerged - the licensed conveyancers. But they face an uphill struggle as the legal profession fights back to defend its former monopoly in this hard, lean, often cut-throat business, says Alastair Brett



department through a lean time in the property world.

Moreover, at roughly £1,500 a go it is not cheap to become a licensed conveyancer - £1,000 of this goes in compulsory insurance, £130 for the licence fee, and £250 as a contribution towards a compulsory compensation fund.

Restrictions on giving financial advice, coming into effect under the Financial Services Act, will not make life any easier for licensed conveyancers.

Unlike the Law Society which is seeking to become a Recognised Professional Body under the Act, so that solicitors can be licensed to give a range of financial advice to their clients, the Council for Licensed Conveyancers is not planning to become a recognised body, leaving it to individual licensed conveyancers to apply for a licence.

One are the heady days when every solicitor had the luxury of weighing up the size of the client's wallet before taking on his business.

Competition in the house-buying business has now become so hot that small suburban firms, advertising in the local press, are getting up to 10 calls a morning from potential clients asking for quotes for doing the conveyancing on their two-up, two-down semis.

Profit levels have sunk to an all time low with prices of £150-£200 being asked for selling a £20,000 house.

According to a survey earlier this year by Peat Marwick, the accountants, conveyancing fees have dropped by 25-30 per cent over the last few years, making residential property conveyancing one of the least expensive ways of meeting a solicitor.

The rot of course set in, as in most things, with removals at No 10 Downing Street. Perhaps Mrs Thatcher's conveyancing fees were too high, but as a committed free marketeer and a former barrister - they have their own monopoly business in the courts - she decided that solicitors had had it too good for far too long.

In January 1984 she declared that she would like her government to be seen as the one which tackled the monopolies in the professions - and the Government promptly took over the House Buyer's Bill, the brainchild of Austin Mitchell, the Labour MP, aimed at slaughtering the solicitors' conveyancing monopoly.

Panic immediately set in at the Law Society and one of its senior officials declared that consumer protection would be "substantially and seriously reduced" if licensed conveyancers were let loose on the public.

Some three years later, this new breed, possibly every bit as boring as solicitors, has been unleashed on the public.

But the 175 licensed conveyancers, who received their certificates last month, have arrived long after the juiciest and tenderest morsels have been picked off the bone.

Threatened with the arrival of licensed conveyancers, solicitors decided that the

only way they could compete in what looked like an increasingly nasty and cut-throat world was to relax their own rules and permit "tasteful advertising" or soliciting - flashing signs were of necessity ruled out.

The result was an advertising war among high-street solicitors offering cut-price conveyancing, a phenomenon which was not lost on a delighted public.

The tragedy is that the threat posed by the advent of licensed conveyancers has caused such a shake up in the normally staid and stodgy legal profession that now that they have arrived, licensed conveyancers may have an uphill struggle to compete in this cut-and-thrust environment.

Following Big Bang in the City, all the indications are that big is beautiful. One-stop conveyancing, multi-disciplinary practices and fusion are the words most talked about when solicitors gather together to ponder the dark and gloomy days ahead.

The Law Society's latest bedtime reading, *Multi-Disciplinary Partnerships and Allied Topics*, a guaranteed soporific, spells out the dangers posed by accountants offering "an all-in service" for their wealthy corporate clients.

The document also points to the increasing threat from the big financial institutions. Black Horse agencies, Hambro Country Wide, Prudential Property Service and the big building societies who are all acquiring chains of estate agencies to offer an all-in house buying, mortgage-broking and insurance advisory service.

It is into this lean, hard, competitive world that licensed conveyancers have been pitched.

Many are choosing to remain with the firms of solicitors they have been working with for years so that they can continue to benefit from the much broader cross-section of work that is done in most firms of solicitors.

After all, profits from litigation and company commercial departments may help fund an underworked conveyancing

This may not always be easy. Indeed, setting up on one's own as a licensed conveyancer could be a risky business until the Lord Chancellor gets off his woolsack, something he is not known to do with great alacrity, and draws up rules and regulations permitting licensed conveyancers to be employed by the big financial institutions and to offer their services to the public as an employee of the institution.

At present, they can offer their services to the public only if they are in partnership with other licensed conveyancers or approved individuals, such as small estate agents or surveyors.

Solicitors have of course wised up to all this and are already branching out by setting up their offices as property display centres, and in some cases setting up Solicitor Property Centres.

There are already three full-sized Solicitor Property Centres - at Wrexham in north Wales, Berwick-upon-Tweed and Crawley, Sussex.

The Crawley centre offers a complete estate agency and conveyancing package on the sale of a house for 2 per cent. It has an independent mortgage-broking business on site, employs eight people and is now the town's biggest estate agency.

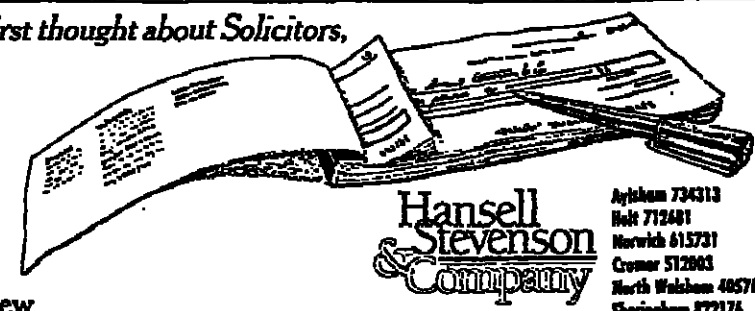
Until licensed conveyancers are able to be employed by estate agents and join forces with the big financial institutions, they may have a hard time of it.

But even if they do not make the fortunes they may once have dreamed of, the public owes them a great debt of gratitude for simply threatening to come into existence and thus causing the legal profession to smarten up its act and charge less for its services.

Alastair Brett is a legal adviser to The Times.

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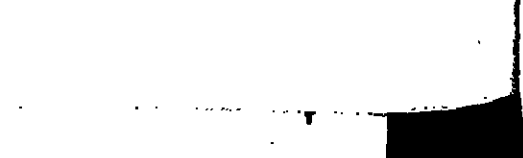
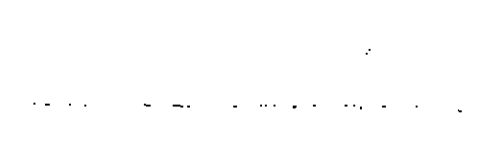
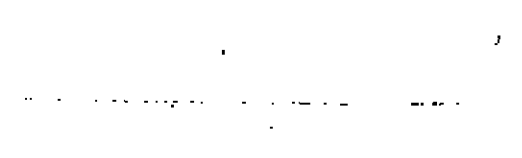
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4.5 GOLD SEAL OAKS (Group 1: 3-Y-O fillies: £148,650: 1m 4f) (11 runners - all carry 9st)

Table listing 11 runners for the 4.5 Gold Seal Oaks, including names like BALABINA, BINT PASHA, BOURBON GIRL, BRACORINA, HONEY LINE, MOUNTAIN MEMORY, ON THE STAFF, SAKURA REIKO, SCIMITARRA, and THREE TAILS.

BETTING: 2-1 Scimitarra, 4-1 Three Tails, Balabina, 8-1 Unite, 12-1 Bourbon Girl, Sakura Reiko, 20-1 On The Staff, 25-1 Honey Line, Mountain Memory, 33-1 Bint Pasha, 50-1 Bracorina.

Form guide to the 11 runners

BALABINA (8-5) made a very promising reappearance when she won the Sir Charles Clarke at Newbury (1m 2f, £12,000, good to firm, May 15, 1987) and then 1 1/2 miles at Ascot (1m 2f, £12,000, good to firm, May 15, 1987) and then 1 1/2 miles at Ascot (1m 2f, £12,000, good to firm, May 15, 1987).

CATTERICK Selections

2.15 Marshstonwood, 2.45 White Of Morn, 3.15 Marston, 3.45 Snake Eye, 4.20 Quinetta, 4.50 Gods Solution.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.15 Huang Tuoh, 3.45 Mr Sunday Sport, 4.20 Quinetta, 4.50 New Evidence.

Going: good to firm Draw: 51-71 low numbers best

2.15 GAINFORD MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O C & G: £222: 5f) (8 runners)

Table listing 8 runners for the Gainford Maiden Stakes, including names like BARRY DAVID, BOURBON GIRL, HANG TUOH, and MARSHSTONWOOD.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.15 Huang Tuoh, 3.45 Mr Sunday Sport, 4.20 Quinetta, 4.50 New Evidence.

2.45 ALDBROUGH SELLING STAKES (3-Y-O: £1,107: 7f) (11)

Table listing 11 runners for the Aldbrough Selling Stakes, including names like CALLING PRIDE, DALLING FOGS, and MR CRICKET.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
6.0 Candy's Sister, 6.30 Free Expression, 7.30 Reindeer Walk, 8.00 Plasi Bach, 8.30 Comedy, 9.0 Izadyr.

3.15 MIDDLEBROOK MUSHROOMS HANDICAP (£2,473: 1m 7f 180yds) (6)

Table listing 6 runners for the Middlebrook Mushrooms Handicap, including names like FOUR STAR THRUST, MARLON, and BUCKLOW HILL.

WARWICK Selections

6.0 Leiper's Fork, 6.30 Free Expression, 7.0 Sam Carlos, 7.30 Reindeer Walk, 8.00 Mini Myra, 8.30 Startle, 9.0 Tropical Flower.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
6.0 Candy's Sister, 6.30 Free Expression, 7.30 Reindeer Walk, 8.00 Plasi Bach, 8.30 Comedy, 9.0 Izadyr.

Going: good Draw: low numbers best

6.0 PAKWOOD MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £1,007: 1m) (21 runners)

Table listing 21 runners for the Pakwood Maiden Stakes, including names like RICE, CAPRICORN, and CITI UP.

8.30 ST JOHN AMBULANCE CENTENARY HANDICAP (£1,428: 1m 2f 170yds) (20)

Table listing 20 runners for the St John Ambulance Centenary Handicap, including names like BLACK COMB, CAPRICORN, and STING.

6.30 MAN APPEAL MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-O: £355: 5f) (12)

Table listing 12 runners for the Man Appeal Maiden Auction Stakes, including names like NINEA, DESTROYER, and ZUTAN.

7.30 BROOKE BOND OXO CATERING STAKES (Amateurs: £1,390: 1m) (25)

Table listing 25 runners for the Brooke Bond Oxo Catering Stakes, including names like STANFORD VALE, BALTHUS, and BUSHY BAY.

7.30 SYD MERCER MEMORIAL HANDICAP (£2,960: 2m 2f 180yds) (6)

Table listing 6 runners for the Syd Mercer Memorial Handicap, including names like GUESSENO, SAGE, and SILENT CHAMP.

7.30 BROOKE BOND OXO CATERING STAKES (Amateurs: £1,390: 1m) (25)

Table listing 25 runners for the Brooke Bond Oxo Catering Stakes, including names like STANFORD VALE, BALTHUS, and BUSHY BAY.

7.30 SYD MERCER MEMORIAL HANDICAP (£2,960: 2m 2f 180yds) (6)

Table listing 6 runners for the Syd Mercer Memorial Handicap, including names like GUESSENO, SAGE, and SILENT CHAMP.

ARUNDEL-TRAINED FILLY TO SPOIL CECIL'S HOPES OF CLASSIC DOUBLE Three Tails can triumph in Oaks

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)
Following Reference Point's victory in Wednesday's Derby, stable companion Scimitarra is now virtually certain to start favourite for today's Gold Seal Oaks.

Trainer Henry Cecil and jockey Steve Cauthen landed the same Epsom classic double two years ago with Slip Anchor and Oh So Sharp.

In their current form they command a colossal following as almost everything they touch seems to turn to gold.

By way of coincidence, Scimitarra is by Kris who was also the sire of Oh So Sharp.

And like the 1985 heroine, she is also owned by Sheikh Mohammed, who paid £20,000 for her after her two-year-old racing career.

The Sheikh has already seen a return on that investment as Scimitarra was the impressive winner of Goodwood's Oaks trial, the Lupe Stakes, on her first and only appearance this season last month.

However, in spite of those strong claims, I maintain that the filly's best chance of winning today's classic lies with Three Tails, from John Dunlop's stable.

Firstly, I prefer her pedigree when it comes to racing over a mile and a half. By the Derby winner Blackney, she is out of the top-class 10 furlong mare Triple First who has already won the Oaks and the Guineas.



John Dunlop, who trains talented Three Tails

was the Oaks favourite at the time, especially as she was giving her filly and had a poor run into the bargain.

In third and fourth places came Balabina and On The Staff, who had also experienced Broken Preparations for one reason or another.

They, too, are expected to run well this afternoon now that their training has gone smoothly since, but the fact remains they will be meeting Three Tails on 9lb worse terms than at Newbury.

That is a lot to make up even after making every allowance for Balabina's in-

experience. Indeed, that factor could be her downfall today because this will be only her second race.

With four races behind her, including one in Italy last season, Three Tails is much more experienced and ready to cope with the problems that Epsom always poses.

Being by Kris, out of a mare by Petingo, Unit, Sheikh Mohammed's third runner, does not have a pedigree that makes me believe she will be as good over today's distance as she has already shown herself to be over a mile.

Like Unite, the French challenger Sakura Reiko is also out of a Petingo mare. By Kenmare, her stamina also has to be taken on trust although I know that a recent work-out on Chantilly racecourse satisfied her successful trainer Patrick Louis Biancone that he need have no fear on that score.

In which case, Sakura Reiko is likely to pose a serious threat this afternoon because it has taken a filly of the class of Miesque to prevent her from having an unbeaten record in four races in France.

A win for any of the other runners in today's 11-strong field would constitute something of a surprise.

However, I know that Barry Hills has not lost faith in Bourbon Girl who, along with Mountain Memory, was clearly up against something out of the ordinary at York last month when they were beaten so comprehensively by Scimitarra's very talented stable companion Indian Skimmer.

Earlier in the day, Dunlop and his big-race jockey, Willie Carson, stand a good chance of also winning the Alders Ebbisham Stakes with Broozwing, who has been kept fresh with this race in mind since capturing the Esher Cup at Sandown Park towards the end of April.

In the Acorn Stakes Icefern can get the better of the course and distance winner Toshair Flyer, especially in receipt of 4lb, having showed so much promise on her debut at Goodwood where she was runner-up to Quiet Weekend.

Finally, a double for Michael Stoute and Tony Kimberley looks on the cards at Haydock Park where Polish Count (2.30) and Ten No Tramps are both fancied, the latter particularly following such an encouraging, albeit belated start to his racing career at Leicester.

EPSON Selections

By Mandarin
2.15 Icefern, 2.45 Dealers Wheels, 3.15 Bronzezwing, 4.05 THREE TAILS (nap), 4.40 BU-SOYAN, 5.10 KIROWAN, 5.45 Prescription.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.15 ---, 2.45 Dealers Wheels, 3.15 Lightning Disc, 4.05 Scimitarra, 4.40 Tarsa, 5.10 KIROWAN (nap), 5.45 Prescription.

By Michael Seely
4.05 Sakura Seiko, 4.40 Bu-Soyan, 5.45 PRESCRIPTION (nap).

The Times Private Handicapper's top ming: 4.05 THREE TAILS.

Guide to our in-line racecard

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. See-jog (Mrs De Robinson) B Hat 9-10-0. West (4) 88. Racecard number. Draw in brackets. See-jog (Mrs De Robinson) B Hat 9-10-0. West (4) 88.

4.05 GOLD SEAL OAKS (Group 1: 3-Y-O Fillies: £148,650: 1m 4f) (11 runners)

Table listing 11 runners for the Gold Seal Oaks, including names like MALIBU TOAST, MANUOUS, COPPER CREEK, TARSIA, SURELY GREAT, and SMOUG PARTNER.

BETTING: 4-1 Mandub, 5-1 Danvent Valley, 6-1 Copper Creek, 13-2 Bursayon, 17-1 Mabu Toast, 20-1 Tarsia, 25-1 Surely Great, 33-1 SMOUG PARTNER, 50-1 SURELY GREAT, 50-1 SURELY GREAT, 50-1 SURELY GREAT.

4.40 AIR HANSON HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £7,778: 6f 9yds) (9 runners)

Table listing 9 runners for the Air Hanson Handicap, including names like MALIBU TOAST, MANUOUS, COPPER CREEK, TARSIA, SURELY GREAT, and SMOUG PARTNER.

BETTING: 4-1 Mandub, 5-1 Danvent Valley, 6-1 Copper Creek, 13-2 Bursayon, 17-1 Mabu Toast, 20-1 Tarsia, 25-1 Surely Great, 33-1 SMOUG PARTNER, 50-1 SURELY GREAT, 50-1 SURELY GREAT.

2.45 ACORN STAKES (2-Y-O FILLIES: £7,284: 5f) (5 runners)

Table listing 5 runners for the Acorn Stakes, including names like TOSHAI RIVER, KEFER, MISS ALICE, VALERIE LADY, and VALUED COLLECTOR.

BETTING: 15-8 Toshair Flyer, 9-4 Kefer, 4-1 Valued Lady, 11-2 Valued Collector, 8-1 Miss Alice.

2.45 STAFF INGHAM STAKES (2-Y-O: £5,150: 6f 9yds) (12 runners)

Table listing 12 runners for the Staff Ingham Stakes, including names like JUST JENNINGS, LORIS WOOD, LEWIS WHEELS, FABLED ORATOR, and VALUED COLLECTOR.

BETTING: 3-1 Deers Wheels, 11-2 Just Jennings, 5-1 Loris Wood, 5-1 Lewis Wheels, 5-1 Fabled Orator, 5-1 Valued Collector, 5-1 Valued Collector, 5-1 Valued Collector.

3.15 ALDERS EBBISHAM HANDICAP (3-Y-O Fillies: £11,121: 1m 11yds) (9 runners)

Table listing 9 runners for the Alders Ebbisham Handicap, including names like AZYAA, DUNNICK, HOORAY LADY, BROZEWING, and CORVIGIA RUM.

BETTING: 3-1 Azzya, 4-1 Dunnick, 5-1 Hooray Lady, 5-1 Brozewing, 5-1 Corvigia Rum, 5-1 Corvigia Rum, 5-1 Corvigia Rum.

3.0 JOHN OF GAUNT STAKES (£16,511: 7f) (8 runners)

Table listing 8 runners for the John of Gaunt Stakes, including names like BOLLIN KNIGHT, PASTORCO 24, TEN NO TRAMPS, VAQUE SHOT, and PEATSWOOD SHOOTER.

BETTING: 5-1 Linda's Magic, 5-2 Ten No Tramps, 7-2 Pastocco, 11-2 Bollen Knight, 6-1 Peatwood Shooter, 12-1 Vague Shot.

4.0 FOCUS T V & VIDEO SELLING STAKES (2-Y-O: £7,358: 5f) (8 runners)

Table listing 8 runners for the Focus T V & Video Selling Stakes, including names like BUTTERCREEK, ESS-KAY-EE, HOURS OF FUN, HOWE FORT, and RIGHT PATH.

BETTING: 2-1 Right Path, 3-1 Ess Kay Dee, 9-2 Hours of Fun, 11-2 Buttercreek, 8-1 Smack's Ltd, 12-1 Howe Fort, 4-1 others.

4.30 GARDENSBURY HANDICAP (£4,038: 1m 6f) (11 runners)

Table listing 11 runners for the Gardensbury Handicap, including names like GOLDEN HEIGHTS, PUSBY, TREASURE HUNTER, BELLO BEND, and WELL COVERED.

BETTING: 2-1 Polish Count, 3-1 Wolsley, 4-1 Polush Count, 5-1 Wolsley, 5-1 Polush Count, 5-1 Polush Count.

FORM POLISH COUNT (8-5) struggled to pick up a Kempton maiden (10f) on May 23, but was a useful performer in the 1m 2f at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

WOLSELEY is a bit of a character but has plenty of ability and should improve on (8-5) at 3 1/2 miles to our eyes. He was a useful performer in the 1m 2f at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

ALBION PLACE is a well beaten 8th on reappearance needs to return to a 1 1/2 mile (10f) at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

DAMMART is out of the handicap and hard to recommend even at 1 1/2 miles to our eyes. He was a useful performer in the 1m 2f at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

HAYDOCK PARK Selections

By Mandarin
2.00 Pontevecchio Notte, 2.30 Polish Count, 3.00 Ten No Tramps, 3.30 Space Cruiser, 4.00 Right Path, 4.30 Pubby.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.00 Pontevecchio Notte, 2.30 Assultan, 3.00 Ten No Tramps, 3.30 Space Cruiser, 4.00 Pubby.

Going: good to soft Draw: low numbers best

2.0 PHILIP CORNES NICKEL ALLOYS MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,798: 6f) (17 runners)

Table listing 17 runners for the Philip Cornes Nickel Alloys Maiden Stakes, including names like ACADUOS, APPELLANT, BOLLIN PATRICK, DIAMONDSFOREVER, FIVE TOWERS, KERRIDGE, KIRBYFIELD, LONO THY, MONTGOMERY, PEACE PIPE, PERMAN ART, and PORTVECHIO.

BETTING: 15-8 Pontevecchio Notte, 4-1 Krestoff, 12-1 Montros Boy, 8-1 Aajloo, 12-1 Bollen Patrick, 16-1 others.

1986: No Corresponding Race

FORM ACADUOS (8-5) made a good impression on debut when he won the 12f 5yds at Sandown (10f) on May 23, but was a useful performer in the 1m 2f at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

BOLLIN PATRICK is another who showed plenty of potential first time out (8-5) finishing in good style when he won the 12f 5yds at Sandown (10f) on May 23, but was a useful performer in the 1m 2f at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

PERMAN ART (foaled: Apr 2, cost: 20,000gns) is a well beaten 8th on reappearance needs to return to a 1 1/2 mile (10f) at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

PORTVECHIO (foaled: Apr 2, cost: 20,000gns) is a well beaten 8th on reappearance needs to return to a 1 1/2 mile (10f) at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

TURBO SPEED (foaled: Feb 5, cost: 100,000gns) is a well beaten 8th on reappearance needs to return to a 1 1/2 mile (10f) at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

STEPHEN LANE (foaled: Apr 2, cost: 20,000gns) is a well beaten 8th on reappearance needs to return to a 1 1/2 mile (10f) at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

THORNBERRY HILL (foaled: Apr 2, cost: 20,000gns) is a well beaten 8th on reappearance needs to return to a 1 1/2 mile (10f) at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

BETTING: 15-8 Pontevecchio Notte, 4-1 Krestoff, 12-1 Montros Boy, 8-1 Aajloo, 12-1 Bollen Patrick, 16-1 others.

1986: No Corresponding Race

FORM BOLLIN KNIGHT put up best performance to date when he won the 12f 5yds at Sandown (10f) on May 23, but was a useful performer in the 1m 2f at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

PASTORCO 24 (foaled: Apr 2, cost: 20,000gns) is a well beaten 8th on reappearance needs to return to a 1 1/2 mile (10f) at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

TEN NO TRAMPS (foaled: Apr 2, cost: 20,000gns) is a well beaten 8th on reappearance needs to return to a 1 1/2 mile (10f) at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

VAQUE SHOT is best judged on seasonal debut when he won the 12f 5yds at Sandown (10f) on May 23, but was a useful performer in the 1m 2f at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

PEATSWOOD SHOOTER (foaled: Apr 2, cost: 20,000gns) is a well beaten 8th on reappearance needs to return to a 1 1/2 mile (10f) at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

HOWE FORT (foaled: Apr 2, cost: 20,000gns) is a well beaten 8th on reappearance needs to return to a 1 1/2 mile (10f) at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

RIGHT PATH (foaled: Apr 2, cost: 20,000gns) is a well beaten 8th on reappearance needs to return to a 1 1/2 mile (10f) at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

SMACK'S LTD (foaled: Apr 2, cost: 20,000gns) is a well beaten 8th on reappearance needs to return to a 1 1/2 mile (10f) at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

BETTING: 5-1 Linda's Magic, 5-2 Ten No Tramps, 7-2 Pastocco, 11-2 Bollen Knight, 6-1 Peatwood Shooter, 12-1 Vague Shot.

1986: FIRM LANDING 3-8-0 N Connon (25-1) J Wats 11 m

FORM BOLLIN KNIGHT put up best performance to date when he won the 12f 5yds at Sandown (10f) on May 23, but was a useful performer in the 1m 2f at Sandown (10f) and that form is not working out too well.

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RIGHT PATH (foaled: Apr 2, cost: 20,000gns) is a well

Controversy at the first Rugby Union World Cup after players are accused of violating amateur ethic

When commercials break the advertising code

From Gerald Davies
Christchurch

From the moment the idea of the World Cup was mooted and the train of events was brought into motion to bring it about, the main objection of the many traditionalists was against the tournament was born of the fear that it would somehow erode the main principle upon which Rugby Union is largely based: that of being an amateur sport.

No player, in other words, shall receive money for playing the game. That is straightforward enough, but even this simple premise has had questions raised about it in the past. Wales, as always in the manner of these things, has often been cited as an example where shifty deals are arranged.

France is another, and Italy, too. And who is to say what goes on in South Africa and New Zealand, for that matter? And the accusations, fingers could well move further along the line, no doubt.

In there are no hard facts, only rumour and delicious gossip upon which the curious

and often mischievous mind likes to feed. Nothing has ever been substantiated and is never likely to be, so the innuendo will continue. Despite the many traumatic moments about remuneration and so-called liberal expenses, the game has remained, largely, intact, although not entirely unscathed.

Of recent concern, in an age of more commercialized sport, have been those activities that occur off the field and which might lead to financial benefits. Book royalties, television interviews, appearances on game shows and sponsorship have each in their time raised the dubious spectre of whether the amateur regulations are being infringed.

Each time the rules have been tightened, although the one pertaining to the writing of books has recently been relaxed to allow the player to do so without infringing his amateur status, provided he does so after his playing days are over.

In the first fortnight of the World Cup in New Zealand, the question of a rugby

player directly advertising a product on television has raised all manner of questions among, primarily, the management and players of the British and Irish teams. Several All Black players are seen on television and in newspapers and magazines endorsing various products, from lager, paint, and an easy-to-apply, fast-acting, non-greasy, non-stick pain reliever.

But the spotlight has been on Andy Dalton. He is captain of the All Black team — although he has yet to play in the World Cup — and is seen on the screen promoting a small Japanese tractor. The advertisement has been given extensive air-time during the commercial breaks in all the televised matches. Dalton, a farmer, is seen driving the vehicle on what is presumably his land. There is no mention of him as an All Black, but Eden Park, the rugby ground in Auckland, is mentioned once.

The Scottish Rugby Union complained: John Kendall-Carpenter, the chairman of the World Organizing Committee, informed the New Zealand Rugby Union of

the disquiet the advertisement aroused and this week the commercial has been taken off the air. It had been felt that if it was to carry on, it would represent the first steps towards professionalism.

The amateur regulations stipulate that "no person shall either directly or indirectly for any monetary consideration, or any benefit of material reward... use or permit his name or any other means of personal identification, to be used in advertisements".

The exception to this is a person whose bona fide career is that of a travel agent who can lead a touring party and can advertise such a tour for remuneration.

However, there is also a final clause which states that "a person may use his name or any other means of personal identification in advertisements which are related to his full-time bona fide business provided it does not refer or relate to his activities or involvement with the game".

Dalton, as a farmer advertising an agricultural vehicle, with no reference to

him being an All Black, believes that he has not infringed the amateur regulations. "The regulations are quite specific in this area and I studied them closely before I did the advertisement," he is quoted as saying.

On the face of it, in terms of this final clause, he is correct. Provided, that is, he has strictly observed the generality of the regulation of not having taken any financial or other material benefits.

No doubt we have not heard the last of this and it will rumble on in the manner of the best soap operas, with who knows what other skeletons emerging to keep the saga going.

After all, it has been going on for a long time now, with each generation producing its own version, with a different twist in the tail ever since England broke off relations with Wales after Newport supporters raised a fund of £500 to buy a new villa for Arthur Gould, the great rugby hero and Welsh centre threequarter of the 1890s. He died at his villa and Wales are still playing rugby against England.

TENNIS

How the Scots found a niche

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

The second oldest national tennis championships are those of Scotland (1878), a year younger than Wimbledon's. Ivan Lendl, John McEneaney, Andrés Giménez, Anders Jarryd, Gabriela Sabatini and Zina Garrison will compete in the later rounds of what will be known as the Bank of Scotland grass court championships, to be played at Edinburgh Council's Craglockhart sports centre from June 6 to 14.

The long arm of coincidence can stretch a long way. This one stems from the fact that the French and Wimbledon championships are only a fortnight apart. Anyone who hopes to last the full fortnight in Paris and Wimbledon in turn must adjust from clay to grass yet somehow, in the process, find time for a mental and physical breather.

That applies to Lendl, who won last year's French title and was runner-up at Wimbledon. Most of the leading men compete in the Stella Artois tournament at Queen's Club, beginning the day after the French championships finish. This event gives players a chance to settle down quickly to match-play on grass. But it imposes instant stress — the weight of public expectation, the tough of public criticism, and the threat of a bad result that can damage a player's confidence and his rankings — on anyone who has spent the weekend hammering away in Paris.

Ireland encouraged by past feats in Australia

From David Hands, Rugby Correspondent, Sydney

Within the next three days the northern hemisphere countries will have shown whether they can live with the standards set by New Zealand and Australia in recent years.

It has been fashionable to decry British standards but the World Cup, which plays out the quarter-final stages over the weekend, will offer a vivid checklist of what remains to be done to restore the prosperity of rugby union at home.

The other instructive area of the knock-out phase of the competition will be the possible change in tactics to the strength of Ringland in the tackle. But Paul Dean, who bruised ribs in training before the first match against Wales and missed the game with Canada and Tonga, retains the confidence of the selectors.

The Irish manager, Syd Millie, admits his side did not perform well in the first two games: "Australia are in the top four countries in the world," he said yesterday. "We are not. We have a high regard for Australian rugby. We respect them but we are not afraid of them."

Millie is also happy to point out that Ireland's record in Australia is not bad: they won the single international on their first visit in 1967 and both games in 1979, when Ollie Campbell superseded Ward and gave an outstanding display of place-kicking.

The main worry for Ireland is primary possession or, as the

jargon has it, getting the platform right. Millie has been in constant attendance in training, working with the forwards on lineout and scrum, because if they cannot hold Australia there the effectiveness of McGrath and the inexperienced Francis will be much reduced.

The other back-row man, Matthews, whose ability is so important to Ireland, has recovered from being stamped on against Wales and will bear in mind that if Farr-Jones, the Australian scrum half, can be held in check, Irish hopes will rise accordingly.

Australia's midfield has been a thing of bits and pieces during the tournament but it has performed when necessary. As Richard Aggiss, who coached the successful Australian side in hockey's World Cup last autumn, has pointed out, tournament play is about reaching the next stage, not a 100 per cent display every time.

I will be surprised if Ireland do not give Australia a pause for thought. I will be surprised if Australia do not win.

AUSTRALIA: D Campese, P Grigg, A Slack (capt), B Papworth, M Burke, M Lynam, N Farr-Jones, C Lacey, T Lawton, A McIntyre, S Rodger, S Curran, W Campbell, J Miller, S Turman, R. Rees, M McLean, E Rodriguez, S Collier, B Smith, B Fitzgerald, P Matthews, D Lantry (capt), T Ringland, B Munn, M Herman, K Crossan, P Dean, M Bradley, P Orr, T Grogan, P Fitzgerald, P Matthews, D Lantry (capt), W Anderson, D McGrath, N Francis. Replacements: J Langford, S Smith, B Spillane, T Doyle, A Ward, D Irwin. Referee: B Anderson (Scott).



Fearsome threesome: the French front line of Garnet, Dubroca and Ondarts recharge their power-pack batteries in practice

Team selections imminent

England's management is under something of a cloud at present, but the rest of the garden is rosy as they prepare for Monday's quarter-final with Wales at Ballymore (David Hands writes).

Neither country will announce its team until today but it needs no great reading of the tea leaves to pick the England XV.

Wales, however, have several posers for resolution. Will Alan Phillips play at hooker? Should Paul Moriarty remain at No. 8? Is Bledyn Bowen fit enough to win selection at centre? Of those the easiest answer is probably that concerning the back row; Wales will have no England's success with Winterbottom and Rees and will almost certainly play the younger Moriarty.

Wales have been joined in Brisbane by their two replacements from Swansea, Mark Tiley and David Young, who

S African tour call

Auckland (AFP) — Albert Ferrasse, the French president of the International Rugby Board, would like to see a combined five nations tour to South Africa. Ferrasse, who is also the French Rugby Federation president, said he favoured sending a touring party comprising players from England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and France to South Africa as early as next year when he arrived here on Thursday.

The South African controversy re-emerged here earlier during the World Cup with revelations — since denied — from Guy Laporte, the French stand-off half, that players had been approached for an unofficial tour to the Republic after the World Cup.

"I am totally against any unofficial tour," Ferrasse said. "The players don't run things and nobody goes without my permission." Ferrasse said a five nations tour would be more intelligent.

Blanco has worrying injury

Both Fiji and France have made surprising changes in their teams for the quarter-final in Auckland on Sunday. Fiji have moved their giant full back, "Big Boot" Severo Koroduadua, to fly half in an obvious attempt to use his fire power to keep the French pinned in their own half.

Jonc Kulu takes over the full-back berth while Jimmy Darnu, of Auckland, not a member of the initial touring squad, is drafted in to replace the injured right wing, Tuvula. Tomasi Cama moves from wing to inside centre, having outside him the speed merchant, Kaisava Salusala.

It is an immensely fast and enterprising back division able — with a reasonable amount of good quality possession — to give the French a fright, especially as Serge Blanco is still regarded as "a security risk" after pulling a hamstring.

In fact the French have become so concerned with Blanco's seemingly incomplete

Dell was youngest American captain

So Lendl asked his agents, ProServ, if they could find him somewhere to practise. ProServ is an international management company founded in 1970 by Donald Dell, who played for the United States in three Davis Cup ties and in 1968, at the age of 29, became the youngest captain of the United States team. In two years they won all their seven ties, whereupon Dell retired with an unbeaten record and became the first lawyer to represent the players professionally.

Dell became an influential figure in every area of open tennis: notably tournament promotion and marketing, television and player management. He has often been accused of conflicts of interest, a charge to which Jack Kramer, once responded: "So what? It means he's doing something."

Let Dell take up the Edinburgh story: "We were trying to arrange a title practice for three or four players, particularly Lendl. He didn't want to come from the French and start at Queen's next day. He asked us to find him somewhere to practise, without the points and the pressure. We weren't planning a big deal: just a round-robin exhibition."

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

- CRICKET**
First Cornhill Test match 11.0, 96 overs minimum
OLIO TRAFFORD: England v Pakistan.
Baltic Assurance County Championship
11.0, 110 overs minimum
SWANSEA: Glamorgan v Somerset.
TUNBRIDGE WELLS: Kent v Essex.
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Worcestershire.
LORDS: Middlesex v Gloucestershire.
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Surrey.
TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Yorkshire.
HARRGATE: Yorkshire v Derbyshire.
- BASEBALL**
SCOTCH AMICABLE NATIONAL LEAGUE (PL): Humberdale County Bears v Mersey Harriers; North West Stars v Southern Tigers; Nottingham Knights v Lancashire Red Sox.
- BOWLS**
MIDDLETON CUP: Cumbria v Lancashire (at Dalton); Northumberland v Yorkshire (at Morpeth); Derbyshire v Durham (at Derby West End); Lincolnshire v Nottinghamshire (at Lincoln).
- CRICKET**
Britannic Assurance County Championship
11.0, 110 overs minimum
SWANSEA: Glamorgan v Somerset.
Refuge Assurance League
2.0 to 7.0, 40 overs
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Worcestershire.
LORDS: Middlesex v Gloucestershire.
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Nottinghamshire.
- THE OVAL: Surrey v Warwickshire.**
HORSHAM: Sussex v Hampshire.
SHEFFIELD: Yorkshire v Derbyshire.
MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Durham division: Barnum v Cumberland v Carlisle; Yorkshire: Lincolnshire v Durham.
- OTHER SPORT**
ARCHERY: Welsh Open and Feather FITA championships (at Llandudno Wells, 5.45).
ATHLETICS: Marathons: Colchester (11.0); Maidstone (5.30).
CROQUET: Home Internationals (at Budegah Salton); Ipswich weekend.
- CYCLING**
National Championship 25 miles (at Great Ouse, Lincolnshire, 8.30); Colchester (8.30); East Midlands 50 miles (at Great Ouse, 7.30); Agne Wheelers 25 miles (at Jersey, 7.30); North Devon 50 miles (at Little Paddox, 7.30); BP Holderness Professional 100 miles (at Withness, 10.45); Women's English to Durham 70 miles (11.0).
FENCING: National sabre championships (at de Beaumont centre, West Kensington).
- TOMORROW**
GOLF: Dunlop British masters (at Woburn); British Amateur championships (at Preswick, St Nicholas); WPGA McGraw's WPGA classic (at Colby).
GYMNASTICS: Westminster Invitational (at Queen's Hall, Piccadilly).
HOCKEY: European club championship (at Swansea).
HOLIDAY CYCLING: Clubmans races (at Sharncliffe).
MOTOR SPORT: Atlantic Computers Historic motorsport (at Brands Hatch, 5.45); racing at Oulton Park.
ORIENTEERING: National event (at Aberfoyle, Perthshire).
POLING: Queen's Cup (at Windsor).
ROWING: Walton regatta; National Schools regatta (at Farnham).
SQUASH RACKETS: Dunlop championship of champions (at Oakleigh Park).
SWIMMING: District age groups (at Bickup Auckland).
TENNIS: Backhampton championships; GWC Championships (at Oldbury TC); Royal Bank of Scotland grass court championships (at Cranleigh, Surrey); Low Chemical classic quality (at Edgborough Priory, St Austell); Queen's Club (at Queen's Club, West Kensington).
WEIGHTLIFTING: British Masters championship (at Milton Keynes).
- ROWING**
Bowl Bridge regatta.
SPEEDWAY: National League: Eastbourne v Canterbury (3.30); Rye House v Exeter (4.0). Four heat matches: Maidstone.
- MOTOR SPORT**
Lucas British Formula three championship (at Silverstone); Atlantic Computers Historic Superbike (at Brands Hatch, 5.30); Clubmans racing (at Mallory Park); Guyson British hill climb championship (at Shelsley Walsh, near Worcester); racing at Sharncliffe.
- ARCHERY**
National event (at Aberfoyle, Perthshire).
POLO: Queen's Cup (at Windsor).
- SPORT ON TELEVISION**
WORLD CUP RUGBY: Live coverage of New Zealand v Scotland (BBC1, 3.55pm, Highlights: see Grandstand and Sports Special).
GRANDSTAND: Dealer First Cornhill Insurance Test match: England v Pakistan from Old Trafford (see also Cricket BBC2).
Wrestling: 10.55pm-8.59pm.
RACING: 3.15, 4.05 and 4.40 races from Epsom, 04.30pm.
SPORTS SPECIAL: World Open rugby: New Zealand v Scotland (BBC1, 8.25pm). Live coverage of Wales v England (BBC1, 8.25pm).
WORLD CUP RUGBY: Highlights of Australia v Ireland and France v Fiji. BBC 2, 12.05pm (Monday).
INTERNATIONAL GOLF: Dunlop British masters: Highlights of the final day. BBC1, 12.05pm (Monday).
WORLD CUP RUGBY: Highlights of Australia v Ireland and France v Fiji. BBC 2, 8.25pm. Live coverage of Wales v England (BBC1, 8.25pm).
REGIONAL: BBC Northern Ireland: live coverage of Australia v Ireland. BBC Wales: coverage of France v Fiji from Auckland and Australia v Ireland. BBC2: 3.55pm and 5.55pm.

ROWING

Schools need a period of tranquillity

The National Schools' Regatta on Nottingham's Holme Pierpont course today has attracted a record entry of 247 crews (mostly eights) for the 27 events (Jim Easton writes). Last Saturday the Nottinghamshire International was cancelled because strong winds were ruffling up the course.

It is hoped that the unsettled weather predicted for today will not include strong winds, the course's worst enemy. A very large crowd is expected.

The top event is the Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother Cup, for championship eights, which has attracted entries from Emanuel, Radley, Eton, Shipkake, King's Canterbury, St Edward's, Hampton and Shrewsbury and should be a fascinating competition, although Hampton, who have carried almost all before them, must start as narrow favourites.

The championship events are also open to clubs and there will be many international junior men and women eager to impress the selectors.

FOOTBALL

Riviera showcase can be valuable step forward for English game

By Clive White

play-offs down to last place. The Tournament, organized by Racing Club de Toulon, lasts eight days.

The age limit, which restricts entry to players born after January 1, 1966, as much as club status, is responsible for ruling out several players from England's European under-21 championship squad. Consequently the party of 17 includes six uncapped players.

Brennan, of Ipswich Town, and Gibbs, of Westford, are the two average players permitted, while the organizers have also accepted Dorigo, who was born before the stipulated entry date.

"It will give me the chance to have a look at some new faces, like Gascoigne, of Newcastle, and Flowers, the Southampton goalkeeper, while they will have a chance to make a name for themselves. I remember that several of those players who starred in the Argentina World Cup side of 1978 started out in this Tournament," Dave Sexton, the manager, said.

The good conduct, particularly abroad, of England's players and supporters during the next 12 months is of paramount importance. Though interest will centre on English behaviour in the European championship in West Germany next summer, this match is a key tournament, attracting few, if any, travelling supporters, will provide England with the opportunity of strengthening their international relationships.

England open their group tomorrow against Mexico — in rather more distinguished fashion, one hopes, than they did in the Mexico World Cup last summer.

SQUAD: T Flowers (Southampton), P Digby (Swindon Town), N Gibbs (Westford), A Dorigo (Chelsea), S Sedgley (County City), G Radger (County City), G Carter (Arsenal), M Keown (Aberdeen), M Brennan (Ipswich Town), Gascoigne (Newcastle United), J Douzall (Ipswich Town), G Porter (Westford), P Carr (Nottingham Forest), D Gordon (Norwich City), M Crook (Birmingham Forest), R Rosario (Norwich City), P Simpson (Manchester City).

POWERBOATING

Williams's record aim

By Bryan Stiles

Tony Williams, on course for his third consecutive British Grand Prix title, will find stern opposition at Stewartry, in Bedfordshire, this weekend. Williams took maximum points at the first championship race of the season, at Carr Mill last month, and is confident he can create a record by becoming the first driver to win three consecutive British titles on inland circuits.

The Rickmansworth driver is proving that he has recovered from the bad accident he had

CYCLING

Webster favourite to retain title

By Peter Bryan

Darryl Webster gives the impression that he only reluctantly defends his national 25-mile time trial title at Great Ouse, near Grimsby, tomorrow. It is not a question of nerves, nor that he has any doubts about his ability to remain Britain's supreme 25-miler for the fourth successive year.

The man from Stoke-on-Trent, who rides for the Manchester Wheelers team, also holds the course record, yet he said: "I can't wait for the championship to be out of the way. The preparation for this

Cold stares for missing Queen's

"We tried the Lawn Tennis Association and met with a cold stare. They wanted us to play Queen's. Finally, we went outside England. We went up to Scotland and found five or six reasonably good grass courts in a public facility. Then the Scottish LTA became excited and said: 'Why not tie it in with our national championships?'"

"Now it's a much more important event and six to eight companies want to sponsor it. Box seats were sold out before they were put on sale, through people writing in or phoning."

"There are no guarantees," Dell added. "The guys just want to play. How can anyone tell me that all this is bad for tennis in general? The sadness is that the ITF want to stop any growth they can't control." This accusation refers to the fact that the Edinburgh event, an independent promotion, is opposed by the International Tennis Federation.

ProServ overcame similar opposition in helping to establish two of Europe's big events: the World Team Cup competition and the European Community championship. They are doing it again by helping to revitalize the Scottish championships.

far in 5c min 195c. Other threats come from Chris Boardman, his teenage club colleague and Gary Wharton, of Nottinghamshire, who, as a comparatively unknown rider, finished fourth last year.

One rider of great talent is John Pritchard, an RAF physical training instructor, who had more than 40 victories in 1968. In a straw poll of the riders, however, opinion was split. None was prepared to nominate anyone other than Webster for gold in Lincolnshire.

A select band of debut failures

By Alan Lee

Given the way he felt yesterday, this may not console him at all, but Neil Fairbrother in fact joined a distinguished and sizeable band of batsmen when he was out for nought in his first Test innings during the gloom of Thursday evening.

Test cricket's list of debut "ducks" is long and imposing, though perhaps few have suffered the singular combination of circumstances which befell Fairbrother — out leg-before, playing no shot, without once having laid bat on ball, and all on his home ground at Old Trafford.

Lancashire's proudly partisan cricket folk, basking in the unaccustomed luxury of having a team at the head of the Championship and a gifted young player in the England side, had waited all week for the moment when Fairbrother walked out to bat in the first Cornhill Test.

Fairbrother, who shares their pride and is not short on emotion, was well aware of the expectation. His family had turned up in force and he could scarcely get up the pavilion steps for friends and well-wishers. It was his big day and every Lancastrian wanted to share in it.

So when it all went wrong, he felt sorry not just for himself but for the supporters he believed, illogically, he had let down.

He is 23 and will have ample chance to atone, but try telling him that while Bruce French, who came in as nightwatchman, was making batting look easy yesterday. There was, in fact, no chance to tell him and Mickey Stewart, the England manager, decided that Fairbrother should be left alone, rather than face an interview.

"For his sake, the sooner it is out of his system the better," said Stewart. "Sir Leonard Hutton made nought in his first innings for England too, but no one remembers that. They remember his 364." Stewart's protection was understandable, but both he and his young charge might be diverted by some of the names in the exclusive club.

Hutton made nought and one in his debut in 1937, then scored 100 in the first innings of the next Test. During Stewart's playing era, Close, Barrington and M. J. K. Smith were all victims; the list of the 1960s includes Milburn, Fletcher and Knott; later Gooch, Brearley and A. R. Lewis, the television presenter, can be added.

Fairbrother was given the middle name Harvey by his mother, an avid cricket follower, after her own favourite player. Neil Harvey did not make nought on his Test debut, but he fared little better, scoring 13 in an Australian total of 674.

Travesty of game before you could say Tim Robinson

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

MANCHESTER: England have scored 402 for seven against Pakistan.

England took their first innings from 145 for three to 402 for seven in the first Test match, sponsored by Cornhill, at Old Trafford on a day's cricket of the utmost forgettability. The main beneficiary yesterday was Robinson, who scored 166. The last 18 overs were lost to rain. And the way that Pakistan were setting about things these would have taken another hour and a half to bowl.

For two days the play has mostly matched the cold, grey and cheerless weather. Neither side have given the impression of enjoying themselves or the Pakistanis of being particularly wholehearted. At least, though, England declined an offer to come off yesterday evening for bad light.

Robinson's was his fourth Test hundred and, as in the others (one against India and two against Australia), there was no question of his throwing his wicket away. The lowest of the four was 148. His application was such that he took not the slightest risk. French made his first Test 50 and, after Gower had rather missed out, Botham made, for

him, a rather laboured 48, slowed down by the tactics of the Pakistanis.

Imran was off the field by then (three of his side were at one time or another) and the umpire Bird was back on it. Bird had retired earlier, with a great song and dance, when a fast return caught him on the leg.

It was, to start with, one of the day's more amusing interludes. As the reserve umpire, Jack Birkenshaw did a stunt before tea, seeing from close

Pakistan deny time-wasting

Pakistan's manager, Hashib Akhan, denied that his side had attempted to waste time during the second day of the first Test match yesterday and claimed that all the substitutions were made for genuine injuries.

quarters the mediocrity of the bowling and becoming in the process the first stand-by umpire to be called on in a Test in England.

French played just the innings wanted of a night-watchman. I was delighted for him. He had a wretched winter in Australia, having to play second fiddle to Rich-

ards, a less good wicketkeeper, and feeling at times that there was no justice in the world. But of the first 23 runs of yesterday he made 20 of them in spanking boundaries. He and Robinson played through the morning, scoring 80 off 30 overs.

Without Imran to bowl for them, Pakistan would not have run through a club side. They already looked resigned to whatever awaited them, rather as they used to on one or two of their early tours of England. In a sense they were fortunate that at one end Robinson was in the throes of rehabilitation.

Having shared a fourth-wicket partnership of 113, French drove Akram firmly to mid-wicket. That was 246 for four. Gower then made a leisurely 32. At 284 he made to pull a short ball from Akram and skied it to the wicketkeeper. Yousuf had dropped a good deal else, mostly leg-side takes, but he caught this. Bird's departure came next, nearly followed by Robinson's, Akram missing a sharp return chance.

The evening consisted, until the rain arrived at 5.20, of Pakistan bowling as few overs as they could, an operation conducted with a mischievous and misplaced pleasure by Miandad. In the first hour after tea he managed to keep the number down to 11 without the umpires having anything to say about it.

It was a travesty of the game, which eventually got to Robinson. Having batted for just under nine hours and hit 16 fours, he was caught at the wicket, trying to help away another leg-side long hop which deserved the roughest possible treatment.

And not even Botham could do much to raise the play to a level worthy of a Test match, though he was trying his best when caught at long off Tauseef. As though that was not enough, the rain now set in.

PAKISTAN won toss ENGLAND FIRST INNINGS

Table with columns: Player, Runs, Balls, Fours, Sixes. Includes G W J ATHEY, R T ROBINSON, M W GAITING, N H FAIRBROTHER, B N FRENCH, D I GOWER, T BOTHAM, J E BURBURY, P A J DEFRITTO, Extras, Total, P H EDMONDS, N A FOSTER, FALL OF WICKETS, BOWLING.

PAKISTAN

Shoaib Mohammad, Ramiz Raja, Mansoor Akhtar, Javed Miandad, Salim Malik, Imran Khan, Muzzaffer Nazir, Saleem Yousuf, Wasim Akram, Tauseef Ahmed and Mohsin Kamal. Umpires: H D Bird and B J Meyer.

TCCB seek S Africa stance

By Alan Lee

A special, full meeting of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) has been convened for next Friday. Just one subject will be on the agenda and, complicated though it is, it can be interpreted as the future of the international circuit.

Alan Smith, the chief executive of the TCCB, announced yesterday that the meeting had been called to formulate an official UK stance for the gathering of the International Cricket Conference (ICC) on June 26, at which the West Indies will put a resolution with far-reaching effect.

The West Indies, seconded by Zimbabwe, are proposing in essence that any cricketer who visits South Africa in future, either to play or coach, will become ineligible for international cricket. This directly challenges England's insistence that their county players are free to visit South Africa for winter employment as club or provincial players and coaches.

The World Cup, scheduled for October, is the first event which may possibly be at risk if talks break down, but Smith

said yesterday: "We cannot look at this simply with regard to that competition. It has longer-term implications and we have to decide whether or not we can alter our firm position on South Africa."

Smith added that the Board felt the ICC's extraordinary meeting should not take place and that a wiser course would be for the matter to be addressed by a specially selected group later in the year.

"We have now to accept, however, that it will go ahead and so we must decide how best to deal with it."

QPR to remove plastic pitch

By Dennis Shaw

Queen's Park Rangers dealt a blow to the advocates of artificial pitches when they announced at yesterday's annual meeting of the Football League that they are to remove theirs.

Their new chairman, David Bulstrode, told the other clubs that a firm decision has been made to install a grass pitch at Loftus Road next summer.

Along with his announcement came a Leicester City resolution that the recent three-year moratorium (during which plastic pitches cannot be outlawed for those clubs which have already installed them) should be breached and that no cup ties should now be allowed on plastic pitches. The defeat of that proposal saved Luton Town from taking legal action.

Although Leicester's move was decisively beaten, Bulstrode, who has succeeded Jim Gregory as chairman at Rangers, added great weight to the anti-plastic lobby. He said that a survey is in hand by the company who installed the grass pitch at Fulham with a view to a similar installation, which will cost £250,000, at Loftus Road.

"People are put off by artificial surfaces because games become boring," he said. "There is no variation from match to match. Installing the new pitch will be more than compensated by increased support."

There was also a rejection of a Tottenham Hotspur resolution calling for all first division clubs to install undersoil heating "before the start of 1989-90 season". Those clubs with heating systems, which have proved effective in overcoming severe

winter weather, believe the others should follow suit. Among those regretting the failure of the proposal was the League president, Philip Carter, whose own club, Everton, have employed such a system for years. "If the first division is to be one of excellence then all clubs should be able to play matches in adverse conditions," he said.

"Undersoil heating improves the standard of football in winter conditions, pleases the spectator and ensures a flow of income. Everybody benefits, which is why I believe that clubs will be ultimately required to provide this service."

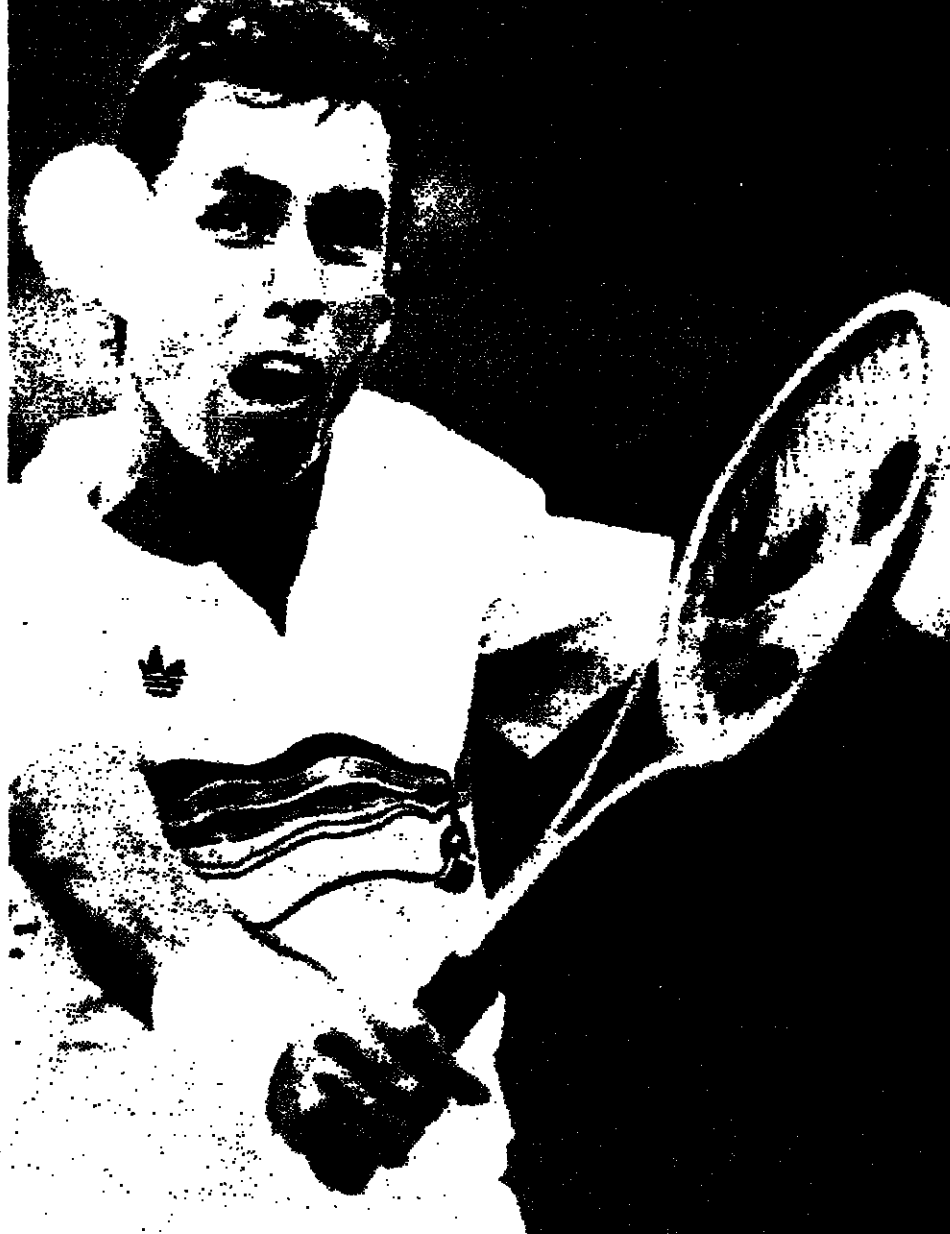
One Tottenham suggestion which prevailed, albeit on a recount, was the introduction of two substitutes for League matches. This brings English clubs into line with most other European countries and Scotland.

Suspensions of phone virus epidemics causing convenient postponements have resulted in a rule amendment allowing for a two-penalty on clubs deemed to have pulled out of games "without due cause".

A disappointment for the League was the failure to gain an agreement that all players wear the League's centenary logo on their shirts next season.

Decision time

Brian McClair, Celtic's much sought after forward, has seven days to consider a move to Manchester United (Ian Ross writes). McClair yesterday discussed terms with Alex Ferguson, the manager at Old Trafford, and is expected to announce his decision on return from holiday.



The right angle: Lendl wearing down Miloslav Mecir in yesterday's semi-final

Lendl and Wilander ready for marathon

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Paris

Ivan Lendl and Mats Wilander, the rocks on which many clay-court ambitions have foundered, will contest the men's singles final of the French championships tomorrow. One would not bet on the match finishing before nightfall.

Lendl has been champion twice and runner-up twice and the younger Wilander champion twice and runner-up once. Yesterday, after early excitement, each remorselessly crushed an interesting challenge. Lendl took more than three hours to beat Miloslav Mecir 6-3, 6-3, 7-6 and Wilander disposed of Boris Becker by 6-4, 6-1, 6-2 in two hours and 11 minutes.

Lendl's was a mental and physical triumph. The crafty Mecir is a counter-puncher but for the most part Lendl gave him no place to feed on and (by staying back) no target for passing shots. That was the mental factor.

The physical factor was the speed with which Lendl raced to counter every thrust and either keep the rally going or

finish it — often from wide on the forehand.

"The way I decided to play it, the match was really tough," Lendl said. "It was almost like I was doing wind sprints for three hours." Mecir observed sadly: "Ivan was everywhere. It was really hard to hit winners. So I tried to hit

Results from Paris

MEN'S SINGLES: Semi-finals: I Lendl (CZ) bt M Mecir (CZ), 6-3, 6-3, 7-6; M Wilander (Swe) bt B Becker (FRG), 6-4, 6-1, 6-2. WOMEN'S DOUBLES: Semi-finals: S Graf (FRG) and G Sabatini (Arg) bt J Byrne (Aus) and K Furusaki (US), 6-1, 6-4; M Navratilova and P Shriver (US) bt C Kongo-Rolsch (FRG) and H Sukovic (CZ), 7-6, 6-3. MIXED DOUBLES: S Stewart and Miss L McNeil (US) bt M Schapers (Nem) and Miss A Henriksen (US), 6-4, 7-6.

closer to the lines and often I was missing."

At times Mecir — gently nudging the ball this way or that before firing a bullet down the opposite line — so bamboozled Lendl that the crowd laughed. But Lendl won six consecutive games and after two sets he knew that the last laugh would be his. A tiring job almost done, he lost

some of his zest for finishing it. "The Big Cat" remained in a teasing mood, but Lendl is no mouse.

Wilander educated Becker and did not spare the rod. Becker began with a more careful version of the explosive, all-action tennis that wins him Wimbledon championships. He had six break points for a 5-2 lead and once found himself shaking hands with Jean-Paul Belmondo in a court-side box. Wilander, inscrutable, wondered how long the storm would last. He battered down the hatches.

Becker, finding it increasingly difficult to put the ball away without being reckless, wandered into the tactical dilemma common to big hitters on clay: how and when to attack. He lost nine consecutive games. Often the quick-witted, nimble Wilander came up with the right answer while Becker was still posing the question. Unable to out-rally Wilander or overpower him, Becker became confused — brave to the last, but helpless

Graf no minor competitor

From Rex Bellamy

Lord Moran, writing of soldiers, has suggested that a man's courage was his capital — and he was always spending. That also applies to professionals in sport, especially when their confidence and competitive resilience are further eroded by the psychological shock of a thirteenth birthday. So where does the battle-hardened Martina Navratilova stand now?

Miss Navratilova plays Steffi Graf, eight days short of her eighteenth birthday, in the women's singles final of the French championships today. The last time a final like this happened was in 1973, when Margaret Court, aged 30, recoiled from imminent defeat to beat Chris Evert, aged 18, by 6-7, 7-6, 6-4. The similarity between the ages of those finalists and today's is striking. Then, as now, we were

watching the end of one era and the beginning of another.

It is in Miss Navratilova's favour that she has been playing and winning Grand Slam singles finals since 1978, whereas Miss Graf has never before contested one. Miss Navratilova may also be encouraged by the fact that she was the last player to beat Miss Graf (that was in November) and, in the past two weeks, has been playing with the disciplined, remorseless authority we used to take for granted. Moreover, she has not won a tournament this year and, with Wimbledon coming up, has much to prove — most of all, to herself.

On the other hand, clay is Miss Graf's best surface and Miss Navratilova's worst. Miss Graf has won 38 consecutive singles this year and she beat Miss Navratilova in their

last match on a hard court in Florida. Miss Graf also won their only previous match on clay, in Berlin a year ago.

In view of Miss Graf's development in the past 14 months, Miss Navratilova's overall lead of 5-2 is less relevant than the fact that they have broken even in their last four matches — and Miss Graf came within a point of making it 3-1.

This year Miss Graf has been winning tournaments and Miss Navratilova has not. Whether Miss Navratilova's self-doubt has been dispelled remains to be seen. Much will depend on each player's response to the emotional stress of the finals, but at 17 Miss Graf has nothing to lose. She goes into the final as she came into the tournament — as favourite.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Challenge to Elliott

Malcolm Elliott, the Milk Race winner, meets Shane Sutton, the Australian champion, in the Norwich Spring Classic race over 136 miles on June 12.

Also taking part in the televised event are Tony Doyle, the world 5,000m pursuit champion, Mark Bell, the national road race champion, and Paul Sherwin, the national track champion.

Cruz target

Joachim Cruz, the Olympic 800m champion, will attempt to lower Jim Ryan's mile mark on American soil (3min 51.1sec), set 20 years ago, in the Prefontaine Classic athletics meeting today against Ray Flynn, of Ireland, and Mike Bolt, of Kenya.

In pole spot

Martin Donnelly, of Northern Ireland, snatched pole position from Johnny Herbert, the commanding overall leading, by a fraction during practice at Silverstone yesterday before tomorrow's eighth round of the Lucas British Formula Three championship.

Switched on

Floodlighting is to be introduced at all Irish League football grounds next season under a £300,000 scheme revealed yesterday by the league president John Crossen.

Out of pocket

Wakefield Metros, the British women's handball champions for the past six years, are unlikely to compete in the European Champions' Cup next season unless a sponsor is found in the next six weeks. Metros have played only twice in the competition when the players were forced to pay for their opponents accommodation, plus all expenses for officials, from their own pockets.

Tough draw

Stephen Hendry, the Scotland champion, meets Joe Johnson, the world finalist who beat the teenager in the semi-final, in the Langs supreme snooker masters at the Hospitality Inn, Glasgow, from September 17 to 20, while Alex Higgins returns from his ban with an exciting clash against Jimmy White.

DRAWN: First round: S Hendry (SCO) v J Johnson (ENG); C Thornton (CAN) v D Taylor (WAL); A Higgins (IRL) v J White (ENG); N Foulds (ENG) v T Griffiths (WALS).

END COLUMN

Give the pupil a sporting chance

The Government has commissioned an inquiry on physical education and sport in schools. Carole Robotham, the Senior Inspector for P.E. with the Inner London Education Authority, discusses the controversy over the decline of traditional male team games and the role of P.E. in state schools.

"The debate has been useful because it has challenged traditional thinking and forced everyone to consider what is best, not just for the best sports performers in each year in a school but for all pupils.

"When it began in December, 1985, the England teams in cricket, football and rugby were not doing tremendously well. I wondered if schools were not a scapegoat. For instance, we were being blamed for not producing cricketers when we lost in the West Indies, but we were not exonerated, let alone praised, after the successes last winter in Australia.

"The complaints about sport in schools come largely from cricket, football and rugby. I have not heard of criticisms from governing bodies of other team games — basketball, hockey and netball, for instance — let alone from the individual sports like athletics, gymnastics and swimming. The debate has been led by a few men about a few men's sports.

"All governing bodies want to see their sports played in every school, to give them a reservoir of future talent. But schools should not be expected to produce international sporting stars. Nevertheless they do

ilea

so. Among the famous names from London schools are Dely Thompson, Linford Christie and Kenny Sansom.

"It is absolutely false to think that team games are competitive and individual sports are not. What could be more competitive than the whole ethos of the Olympic Games?

"The role of team games is being questioned because they do not suit everyone and they are not, by themselves, a complete physical education. Compulsory team games, as we knew in the past, did not suit all children. Usually they either adored them or rejected them. Many women never wanted to do any sport again because of bad experiences at games fields.

"We now think it is often more convenient and valuable to have games with reduced numbers in the curriculum, rather than traditional full-sided matches, because it encourages participation and still tests skills and tactics.

"In general we do not encourage inter-school matches in school time. We feel this should take place after school or at weekends. Curriculum time is for teaching.

"Team games certainly have a role in the curriculum. But it should be part of physical education, not all of it. What is needed is balance with other activities like dance, gymnastics, swimming, athletics, outdoor education and racket games.

"We particularly want pupils to respond to personal challenges, posed by physical education, like learning to swim or climbing rock walls in sports halls. These are often more easily acquired in individual sports.

"We want to encourage everyone to fulfil their potential and to enjoy self-competition.

"Despite reports, I believe passionately in excellence, but I want everyone to have a chance to achieve this, not just the chosen few. Equal opportunity should be open to everyone — whatever race, class or gender he or she comes from.

"Our commitment to excellence is shown by the fact that the ILEA has set up its own special ability classes in sports like gymnastics, judo, cricket and basketball. We are also interested in encouraging clubs to take children in as members, as happens more extensively in other Western European countries like West Germany and France.

"But, above all, we are concerned with encouraging not just the top-class performers. We are concerned with everyone. That is what physical education is about and what education itself is about."

Interview by JOHN GOODBODY.

GREENPEACE advertisement featuring a dolphin and the text: DOLPHINS IN DANGER. THANK GOD SOMEONE'S MAKING WAVES.

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Large vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, with text including 'Give the pupil a sporting chance' and 'ilea'.